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"Bombay Gazette" Press, Fort, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,006—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY :—TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1897.

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Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	FRIDAY, 5 P.M.
B.I.CARTHAGE	5198	W. J. Nantes	28th May.
* SHANNON	4361	E. Crewe	4th June.
B.I.COROMANDEL	4522	F. H. Seymour	11th "
* GANGES	4206	T. F. Creery	18th "
B.I.INDIA	8000	R. F. Briscoe	25th "
* SHANNON	4362	E. Crewe	2nd July.
B.I.ORIENTAL	5284	L. H. Moule	9th "
* GANGES	4206	T. F. Creery	16th "
B.I.PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheeler	23rd "
* SHANNON	4362	E. Crewe	30th "
B.I.BRITANNIA	6525	J. L. Parfitt	6th Aug.
* GANGES	4206	T. F. Creery	13th "
B.I.CALEDONIA	7598	W. B. Andrews	20th "
* SHANNON	4362	E. Crewe	27th "
B.I.ROME	5545	A. B. Danieli	3rd Sept.

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Bombay, 15th May, 1897.

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VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4,351	1st June.
GISELA	L. Brelich	4,260	12th June.

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Steamer	Captain.	Tons.	To Sail on
MARIA VALERIE	A. Fellner	1,235	21st June 1897.

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NATAL	4,074	C. Chevalier	11th June. 9th July.

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FOR KURRACHEE VIA KATHIAWAR COAST PORTS AND MANDVIE.

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FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "PEMBA," 1,552 tons, on the 27th May, about noon, calling at Kurrachee, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, Busreb, in the foregoing or any order. (Weather permitting.)

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "ELLORA," 1,970 tons, on or about 25th May.

FOR CALCUTTA DIRECT.

S. S. "BOOLDANA," 2,823 tons, on or about 25th May.

FOR ADEN, LAMOO, MOMBASSA, AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 17th June.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR, AND DELAGOA BAY.

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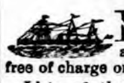

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The allotment should be fully paid up on or before the 1st August, 1897.

MD. S. HUSSAIN,
Revenue Officer.

Revenue Department, Municipal Office, Madras, 15th May, 1897.

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Special mixtures Crushed Oats, Bran, etc., supplied.

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Under instructions from the Executive Engineer, Presidency, Messrs MEHRJEE, JOHNSTONE and Co. will sell by Public Auction, TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY, the 26th instant, at 3 p.m., at P. W. Storeyard, next to the Mahim Fort, a lot of empty kerosine oil boxes with tins, old teak rafters, and right of removing fruit of boker trees; also right of removing mango, ambora and cajoo fruits, and champa flowers, of Sion Fort.

Also at Claremont Premises, Byculla "Police Office," at 2 p.m., the right of removing mangoe fruits, and the right of cutting dried mango trees.

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On THURSDAY, the 27th instant, at 2 p. m., Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction at "Storm Hall," next to the Bhandarwada Reservoir, opposite to Sir J. J. bungalow) Mazagon, the whole of the above handsome suits of drawing, dining and bedroom furniture, &c., &c., the property of JOHN HEWSON, Esq., C.E.

Catalogues will be published.
Property on view from Sunday.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & CO.

Bombay, 25th M 7

NOTICES.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Municipal Commissioner has appointed TUESDAY, 25th May 1897, for the purpose of BALLOTING for a member to represent the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on the Municipal Corporation in place of Mr. P. B. Savile, who has resigned on proceeding to Europe.

The BALLOT-BOX will be OPEN at the Office of the Chamber, from 10 A.M. till 6 P.M., on that day.

By Order of the Committee,
JOHN MARSHALL,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 10th May, 1897.

THE DAMODAR LAKHMIDAS MILLS COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND at the rate of (Rs. 50) Rupees Fifty per Share for the year ended the 31st December 1896, will be paid on and after TUESDAY, the 25th May 1897, at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 10, Church Gate Street, Fort, between the hours of 12 NOON and 3 P.M., to those Shareholders whose names stand on the Register of Shareholders, on the 8th May 1897 on production of Share Certificates.

લખ્મીદાસ ખીમજી એંડ કંપની,
i.e., LAKHMIDAS KHIMJI & Co.,
Secretaries, Treasurers and Agents.

Bombay, 17th May 1897.

NOTICE.

NORWALK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
HEAD OFFICE, Connecticut. United States of America.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, Gold Dollars...500,000.
PAID UP ,, ,, ,, ...200,000.
TOTAL ASSETS (exclusive of Uncalled Capital) ,, ...447,000.

I HAVE THIS DAY been APPOINTED GENERAL AGENT of the above Company for the Presidency of Bombay, and am prepared to issue POLICIES of INSURANCE against LOSS by FIRE on——every description of property at Current Rates.

W. R. RAE,
General Agent.

51, Apollo Street, 1st May, 1897.

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MANUFACTURED AT THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT CINCHONA PLANTATION.

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	Rs. a.
1 Pound in Rs. 15 or, post free	15 12
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Analysis shows this Quinine to be of the purest manufacture; and it is guaranteed to be free from wilful mixture with the inferior Alkaloids Cinchonine and Cinchonidine. It is for sale only to Government officers, and only for cash, and may be had from the SUPERINTENDENT, Botanic Garden, Sibpur, near Calcutta

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

AN Opener and Exhaust, a lot of second-hand FIRE BRICKS, Seating Blocks, Engine Foundation Stones, and Cast Iron and Steel Gearing, Bevel Wheels, New Brass Boiler mountings, New Brass Condenser Tubes, New Loomoor Iron Bolts for Fly-wheel, one piece of Suction Rubber Pipe, etc.

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Bombay, 28th January, 1897.

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RESERVE FUND	,, 6,010,000

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PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £180,000

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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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BOMBAY:

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 5h. 23m. Sun sets, 6h, 30m. High water, 7-25m., 7-41s. Low water, 0-55m., 0-40s.
Chamber of Commerce, ballot for a Municipal Councillor, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Music at the Yacht Club, 5-45 p.m.

POLO.—There will be no game to-day, but the ground will be reserved for practice.

REPORTED THEFT AT GRANT ROAD.—Mr. William Robinson, residing at Grant Road, has reported to the police the theft of wearing apparel, of the value of Rs. 33-8, from his room.

"READ AND REFLECT."—Under this title "R.A.M." has issued from the Ripon Press a coloured sheet of moral reflections on the advantage of temperance, perseverance, justice, and other cardinal virtues. The selection has been carefully made from wise sayings of great authors or philosophers.

SERIOUS INJURY TO A LABOURER.—Somwar Narayen, employed in the "Goculdas Press," Lower Colaba, was, on Sunday last, cleaning the press, which was in motion, when four of his toes suddenly got in and taken off. He was removed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where he is now under treatment.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.—In the list of passes of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, for April, we notice the name of Mr. Alexandre da Foncea Dias (Portobello), who has passed the final examination, and been admitted as a Licentiate of the three co-operating authorities.

REPORTED THEFT IN A QUARANTINE HOSPITAL.—Ismail Shaik Abdulla, a horse dealer, who arrived in Bombay on the 18th instant, from Singapore, on his way to Bussorah, and who is at present detained in the Naree wady Quarantine Hospital, has reported to the police the theft of a watch, of the value of Rs. 12, from his bundle of bedding, on Saturday noon.

CONDOLENCE.—At a meeting of the Vadnagara Nagars, of Ahmedabad, it was resolved to write a letter of condolence to the family of the late Hon'ble Mr. J. U. Yajnik, in appreciation of his valuable services to his country. The Vadnagara Nagars of Ahmedabad took particular interest in Mr. Javerilal's career as one belonging to their community and born in their historical town.

ALLEGED THEFT BY A SERVANT.—Pragji Kaloo, resident of Wadhwan, lately a servant in the employ of one Premji Rowji, of Jafferabad, absconded to Bombay, after having relieved his master of gold ornaments and cash, of the aggregate value of Rs. 500 on the 8th instant. The complainant lodged a complaint at Jafferabad, but accused could not be found at the time. Subsequently the complainant having got scent of the man's whereabouts, arrived in Bombay, and having arrested the man, gave him into custody of the Bombay police.

MUSIC AT THE YACHT CLUB.—The Band of the 21st Bombay Infantry, under the direction of Bandmaster A. Mallandaine, will play the following programme at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club, this evening, at 5-45 :—

March	Jolly Johnnies ... Squire.
Scena	Guirnaments from Genaro Anneso ... Sanelli.
Reminiscences of England	... Godfrey.
Valse	My Queen ... Coote.
Selection	The Shop Girl ... Caryll.
Galop	Lustige Bruder ... Faust.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

A MILL MANAGER ROBBED.—Mr. F. Willis, manager of the Union Flour Mills Company, residing on the second storey of a house on the Chinchpogun Road, reported to the police, at half-past 4 o'clock, on Sunday morning, that about half-past 9 o'clock, on the previous evening, he went out, leaving the house in charge of his servants. On his return shortly after midnight, he found his gold watch and gold chain, with green stones, heart-shaped pendant attached, a silver watch, a silver watch-box, a tiger claw watch charm, a cash box, and a purse, containing Rs. 4, in all properly collectively valued at Rs. 430, missing. A portion of the property was taken from under complainant's pillow and some from a chest of drawers.

FINDING OF A DEAD CHILD.—Yesterday morning, a muccadam in the Health Department, whilst walking along Fort Street, off Frere Road, observed a blood stained bundle lying between two heaps of broken road metal. He immediately examined the bundle when he discovered—but developed made it quite dead, with a rope tied tightly around its throat and a cloth pad in its mouth. The muccadam immediately gave information to the police, and Inspector C. Gannon repaired to the scene. This officer, after examining the dead body, communicated with the coroner. The rags in which the body was wrapped appeared to be parts of garments worn by Parsee females, and the complexion of the child points to parentage from that community.

SUFFERING AND SUICIDE.—An inquiry was held, yesterday, at Lalbaugh, by Mr. Turner, the coroner, respecting the death of Gungadin, a Purdasi, aged thirty-five years. Deceased was formerly employed in the Bombay Gas Company, but was dismissed about a year ago, and since then he had been working at different mills. He resided in a chawl at Arthur Road. For the last five months Gungadin had been ailing, and was very disconsolate. About 5 o'clock, on Saturday afternoon, he was found missing from home, and about 7 o'clock, yesterday morning, his body was found floating on the surface of the water in Sir Dinshaw Maneckji Petit's Mill tank at Parel. There were no marks of violence on the body. The jury brought in a verdict of suicide.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A STEVEDORE'S FOREMAN.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at De Lima Street, touching the death of Joseph Alexander, aged fifty years, a stevedore's foreman, employed in the service of Messrs. Hill, Son, and Grennan, stevedores, and worked at the Prince's Dock. He enjoyed good health, but since the 16th March last, when he was assaulted by two men, he had been complaining of pain in the left side. One of the assailants absconded, while the other was prosecuted before Mr. P. H. Dastur, the then Fourth Presidency Magistrate, and was fined Rs. 35. The deceased was laid up for two weeks after the assault, and then returned to his work, which he continued until last Saturday week. On Sunday morning last, he complained of severe pain in his left side, which travelled to the other side. He had no cough, but had great difficulty in breathing. He died the same evening. A verdict of death from heart disease was recorded.

SUICIDE OF A MARRIED WIFE.—A coroner's inquiry was held, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, on view of the body of Gunga, a Hindu woman, aged sixteen years, wife of one Morarji Valji, residing at Kazee Syed Street. Deceased was married to her husband about five years ago, and for the last two years she had been suffering from rheumatism, from which she never recovered, though some household remedies were tried. On Sunday morning, the husband, who had been sleeping on the road outside the house, during the night, went into the room and found the deceased lying unconscious in her bed, breathing heavily. A native medical practitioner was sent for, who examined her and advised her to be removed to the J. J. Hospital, as she was suffering from opium poisoning. She was accordingly conveyed to the hospital, where she died in the evening. The evidence of a licensed vendor of opium at Musjid Bunder Road went to show that the deceased had purchased half-a-tolah of opium on the previous day, at about 2 p.m. A verdict of suicide was recorded.

POONA RACES 1897.

THE following new race will be run on the 4th day, 28th September:—"The Wanowrie Stakes,"—Rs. 1,200, out of which 2nd receives Rs. 150 and 3rd Rs. 50. For all Arab Galloways 13-3 and under. 13-3 to carry 9st. 3lbs. Weight for inches. Penalties—Winners once 3lbs., twice 7lbs., oftener 10lbs. Winner of a race value Rs. 1,500 or over 7lbs. extra. Allowance—Maidens on 1st May 1897 5lbs. Maidens, 10lbs. non-accumulative. Distance—Mile. Entrance—1st July, Rs. 30, 1st August Rs. 60, 1st Sept. Rs. 100, and Rs. 30 additional for each horse not struck out by 4 p.m., 27th September.

HOME REMITTANCES.

THE following is the Weekly Memorandum of Remittances to the Home Treasury by means of Council Bills of the 24th May 1897 :—

	£
Amount to be remitted during 1897-98	13,000,000
Remitted from 1st April 1897 to 15th May 1897	1,122,100
Balance to be remitted from 16th May 1897 to 31st March 1898	11,877,900

WE have no doubt those of our readers who find a Hair Colour-Restorer a matter of necessity may be glad to know that an old and world-wide favourite—"Condy's Fluid"—makes a most excellent hair stain, producing almost any desired shade, from light to dark, if used as directed on bottle. The non-poisonous and perfectly harmless properties of Condy's Fluid give it an immense advantage over ordinary and more expensive hair dyes, which nearly all contain lead or some other metallic poison, injurious alike to hair and health, while Condy's Fluid, by its invigorating and cleansing effect on the hair and pores of the skin, restores healthy action and thereby promotes the growth of the hair. The price of Condy's Fluid brings it within the reach of all, a 1s. bottle containing sufficient to keep the hair in colour for a year or more. Be sure to ask for "Condy's Fluid," and refuse all.

DON'T LOOK OLD.—With advancing years greyness increases, Stop this with Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer, which darkens to the former colour and preserves the appearance.—Lockyer's The English Hair Restorer.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE Government of India are still engaged in settling matters of detail arising out of the Secretary of State's despatch on the exchange compensation allowance, as the India Office only laid down the general principles to be adopted.

THREE officers of the General List are admitted to Colonel's allowances from the 20th instant. They are Major-General R. M. Jennings, Bengal Cavalry; Colonel F. H. B. Marsh, Bengal Infantry, and Colonel F. Smalley, Madras Infantry.

THE class composition of the 8th Bengal Cavalry is in future to be four half squadrons of Hindustani Mahomedans, two half squadrons of Rajputs and a similar number of Jats. The present half squadrons of Punjabi Mahomedans, Sikhs, and Hindustani Hindus will be eliminated.

THE Khan of Lalpura, who incurred the displeasure of the Amir during the negotiations regarding the Mohmand frontier and was summoned to Kabul in consequence, is now said to have been restored to favour. He is the principal Mohmand Chief in Afghan territory.

THE Chinese official who was ordered to Tibet with the intention of meeting the British representative to settle the matters in dispute on the Sikkim borders has returned to Szechuen. He seems to have been deterred from completing his journey by disturbances on the Tibetan-China frontier.

THE York and Lancaster Regiment, which was shipwrecked in the Warren Hastings, has been having a dismal experience of soldering in India. Since the arrival of the regiment at Agra, between fifty and sixty cases of enteric, with several deaths, have occurred. The water is said to be the cause of the disease, though the supply is obtained from the waterworks.

MR. MELHUISH, Deputy Director-General of the Indian Telegraph Department, retires under the 55 years' rule on the 24th instant. The following provisional changes will be made in consequence: Mr. F. G. Maclean will officiate as Deputy Director-General, Mr. Larkins succeeding him as temporary Director of the Construction Branch.

THE expression "Diamond Jubilee" has been officially adopted in England in connection with the Queen's Commemoration, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales being, we believe, responsible for this step. The title is a meaningless one, and it is surprising that it should have been accepted. However, it is now being used in official communications in India relating to the sending of deputations to Simla on Commemoration Day.

THERE have been no cases of plague at Hardwar since April 22nd, and there is now every probability that the disease will not re-appear; but the Government have acted wisely in checking the inrush of pilgrims, as in spite of inspections on the railway, infection might possibly be carried to this great centre of pilgrimage, and one could not hope that it would be successfully dislodged twice.

Two of the old pattern 7-pounder mountain guns were sent up to Chitral with the troops marching in relief. They will, we believe, be placed in Chitral fort, the defensive strength of which will be materially increased thereby, as the Chitralis, like all other tribesmen, have a dread of artillery. It is unlikely that the new fort will ever be besieged, but it is just as well to be prepared for contingencies.

A MAGAZINE attachment has been invented for the '303 carbine, which will permit of the handy little weapon being carried in the bucket of the cavalry-saddle without any risk of damage to the magazine. With the earlier pattern the thin metal case was found to be knocked out of shape by the jolting in the bucket, but now nothing of the kind occurs. The magazine-carbine is just the weapon for cavalry, who when mounted will probably only be required to keep up a short but rapid fire. The regiments which have the '303 barrel with the Martini action are also well armed, for they can fire with fair rapidity, and the accurate shooting of this carbine has been clearly established.

A MEMORANDUM on the trade between Upper and Lower Burma from 1881-82 to 1895-96 has been issued by Mr. J. E. O'Conor, Director-General of Statistics. The imports into Lower Burma from the Upper Province have doubled in ten years, but the trade in the other direction has been about stationary. The export of rice from the Lower Province northwards has declined very considerably, as there has been far more cultivation in Upper Burma since law and order have been established. The river-borne trade is seven-eighths of the whole, and the railway has not yet diverted any appreciable portion of the traffic. This circumstance, it is held, shows that the trade by rail is practically all new traffic.

AN amended quarantine Ordinance has been lately passed at Port Louis, Mauritius, the most important clause of which deals with Plague, and in regard to an outbreak on a vessel bound for Port Louis it is enacted that such vessel may be refused admission to *pratique* altogether; that the goods or articles on board shall not be landed, and that no persons shall land from the vessel. There is also a clause which enacts that the disinfection of the cargo of any vessel having had communication with an infected port, and having been more than 14 days out, will begin 48 hours after the arrival of such vessel; and in regard to this provision the authorities are already in trouble, as the agents of the s. s. Motshari have called on the local Government to pay Rs. 1,000 a day in consequence of this provision of the Ordinance not having been carried out in respect to that ship.

IT appears to be most difficult to decide between true and false news from beyond the frontier. One would have supposed that the Mashad Agency would be able to get exact information as to what was happening a few marches to the south on the Herat border, but late events go to show that this is not the case. Thus it was reported that Cossacks and Afghans had come into collision in Hashtadun, and details were given as to men having been killed and wounded on either side. The natives who furnished the news must, however, have been romancing, for further inquiries go to prove that no disturbance occurred. The Russian doctors certainly put in an appearance in the village of Musabad with the intention of establishing a plague-post there and they had a small escort of Cossacks with them, but they eventually withdrew some miles aways and contented themselves with pitching a camp on the Persian side of the frontier. The Governor of Herat has kept a sharp outlook along the frontier since the Russians began to draw their cordon, but he does not seem to have had to use force to prevent a violation of Afghan territory. As plague is now dying out in India the Czar's Government may, perhaps, think it useless to keep medical officers in Khorasan. Their presence there can do no possible good, and there is always the risk that they may be tempted to do a little reconnoitring on their own account, and so cause trouble with the Afghans.

IT is stated from the Peshawar border that the withdrawal of the Afghan irregular troops from Mittai has had a wholesome effect upon the Mohmand clans generally. Such of them as are within the sphere of British influence are only too eager now to get the allowances granted to them under the arrangements made last year, while their neighbours probably envy them their good fortune. The uneasiness caused by the rumours that British and Afghan troops might be sent into the country to carry out the work of demarcation has died out, and we shall probably hear no more of the fanaticism of the people being excited by the preaching of *mullahs*. It would, of course, be more satisfactory if the short stretch of frontier from Landi-Kotal to Asmar had actually been marked out this summer by Mr. Udny and General Ghulam Hyder; but, failing this, the admission by the Amir that the Durand line, as drawn on the map, is the correct one, has minimised the danger of further disputes. The Mohmand country is peaceful, and that is something gained; while there is no likelihood now that the Amir will establish outposts in Bajour which might have threatened Dir and other points on our line of communications with Chitral.

THE *Madras Times* learns that the historical diamond, valued at fifty lakhs, sold by Mr. Jacob to the Nizam five years ago, has been stolen from the Government Treasury, where it was deposited, and in its place a false one of paste was found. A perfect sensation has been caused by the theft, the mysteries of which have yet to be unravelled. The Nizam, it appears, intended to present the gem to the Queen on the occasion of her Majesty's Jubilee.

JUDGING from the strength returns of the Volunteer Corps in the Punjab for the two official year's ending 31st March, 1896, and 1897, it would appear that the expansion of the movement in the Punjab has pretty well reached an end, in 1895-96 the total of all ranks was 2,559; at the and of the year 1896-97 it was 2,494—a decrease of 65. There was a small increase in the Punjab Light Horse, a small decrease in the Simla and Lahore corps, and a large reduction in railway corps, due probably to the reduction in the staff owing to slackness of traffic.

A CONSIDERABLE number of the Railway workmen who were recently convicted and thrown into jail for short terms of imprisonment have returned to Negapatam, having served out their terms. A good many of them are Eurasians who with their families are now suffering great privations. The taint of a convict is on them, and they are unable to find re-employment in the S. I. Railway, and their condition, we learn is deplorable. The local circle of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association may do very good work by taking the case of these unfortunates into their consideration and using their influence in obtaining suitable employments for them. Though convicted by a Court the men still maintain that they never did a wrong thing. By this as it may, the men deserve help and help they must have, else it is not improbable that we may have in the near future, to face a serious problem—the problem of the Unemployed in Negapatam.

MESSRS. J. R. PARKINGTON AND CO., of London, state that the total quantity of Champagne forwarded from the Champagne districts for the twelve months ending 31st March last, amounted to 23,359,913 bottles, against 24,032,685 bottles in 1896, and is by far the largest quantity on record. Stocks in casks and bottles equal 1,250,735 hectolitres, or about 156,341,875 bottles, shewing a slight decrease as compared with 1896, 1895 and 1894.

MESSRS. HUNTLEY AND PALMERS, biscuit manufacturer, of Reading and London, have, in commemoration of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, presented to the Royal Berkshire Hospital a gift of £7,000 in order to endow a special ward, and in addition to contributing towards the festivities of the town of Reading, they intend to give the amount of the days pay to their 5,000 employees.

AT a banquet given on May 5, by the Cloth workers' Company, Lord Wolseley, replying for the Army, said it seemed not to be generally known that the number of those who wore Her Majesty's uniform was 800,000. The standing Army of England alone, with its reserve, was over 300,000, and they must add to that the Militia, the Yeomanry, the Volunteers, and the standing army of India. They could have at the ports of embarkation the finest body of men wearing Her Majesty's uniform—an army of 70,000 men—a long time before the ships could be provided to take them abroad.

A SPECIAL edition of the Oxford University Press's Diamond-Jubilee Bible, known as the "Queen's Commemoration Bible," contains the Prince of Wale's Hospital Fund Shilling Stamp. The beautiful design chosen by His Royal Highness for the stamp is the picture of Charity, after Sir Joshua Reynold, which is one of the series of collotypes, illustrating the virtues bound up with these newest Oxford Bibles. A corresponding edition of the Prayer-Book—the "Queen's Commemoration Prayer Book—has also been issued, including the stamp, varied illustrations of sacred subjects and the form of prayer and thanksgiving to be used on Accession Sunday. It is thought that many will be glad to preserve these memeotoes together in convenient form and Mr. Henry Frowde, and Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall and Co., who are neighbours in Amen Corner jointly issue the two volumes which have met with much approval.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to inform us that since the results of the entrance examination of the Punjab University were made known, three "smart students" have committed suicide. Notwithstanding which, he adds, nothing has been done "towards amelioration"—or, in other words, for the opening of the gate to the unsuccessful comrades of the rash three. The responsibility for these deaths is charged to the examiners, as "everybody in Lahore knows that certain examiners did not mark the papers themselves, but gave them to their pupils or clerks." One would be sorry to believe that there is a single grain of truth in any one of these statements: but the chances are all the other way. To a person unaccustomed to the ways of the Indian student, Mr. Labouchere for example, it might seem that here were the materials for a tremendous indictment of the Punjab University: but it is only one more specimen of a class of correspondence which pours down upon newspaper offices at this time of year, and throws a good deal of light upon the curiously constituted nature of the Indian student. Even though he may be so ignorant that he is hardly able to put together the half intelligible scrawl which conveys his grievance the Indian examinee will always believe the most wildly improbable conspiracy or bias on the part of the examiner, before it will occur to him to suspect that the reason of his failure may lie nearer home.

IT may have been noted that Babu Surendranath Banerji, in his evidence before the Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure, urged the adoption of Sir Charles Elliott's decentralisation scheme some explanation of this scheme may be of interest to readers remarks the *Pioneer*. Sir Charles proposed that instead of the Local Governments being given various proportions of the various revenues (that is, a quarter of the land revenue, a half of the assessed taxes, three-quarters of the proceeds of stamps, &c.), they should receive a certain percentage, 30, 35 or 40, as the case might be, of the whole. Then when it became necessary to revise the contracts or to obtain a larger proportion for Imperial share of expenditure a simple order would be issued reducing the percentages, the Local Administrations being informed that instead of receiving 30, 35, or 40 per cent. they would have to limit themselves to 28, 33 or 38. The Local Governments strongly objected to such a principle of assessment, and contended that revision should not be made arbitrarily in this way, but only after a detailed examination of their financial position and the claims upon it, *i. e.*, according to the old plan. The matter, therefore, was not further pursued. Of course, what recommends the scheme to the Congress party is that they have visions of the Government of India going to Local Governments and Local Council's hat in hand and praying them for a larger share of the revenue. Then explanations would be demanded; the Government of India would go down on its knees; the Local Councils would declare that they were not satisfied with the explanations, and the funds would be refused. All this, nowever, is not Sir Charles Elliott's scheme, but Babu Surendranath's little addition to it. We can only repeat that the plan was opposed by Local Governments on the express ground that it left too arbitrary a power in the hands of the Government of India and gave too little consideration to the circumstances of the Provinces.

THE Superior Sanitary Council of the Ministry of the Interior in Russia has in haste determined to issue a decree obliging all the medical men of the Empire to wear a special distinctive sign of their calling, in order that they may be regarded by the people as Imperial officials. This step has been taken in case the plague should be introduced into Russia, and in order to obviate the sad occurrences which took place some time ago, when the Russian peasants threatened to kill the doctors, accusing them of being the propagators of the cholera epidemic. It is thought that if the doctors are regarded as Imperial officials, they will have greater authority, and will not run the risk of being stoned, as they were on former occasions.

THE QUEEN'S COMMEMORATION IN SIMLA.

SPEECH BY THE VICEROY.

A TOWN'S-MEETING to consider the measures to be taken to celebrate the Queen's Commemoration was held May 21 the Viceroy presiding. There was a good attendence of official and non-official members of the community, and the band of the Highland Light Infantry was in attendance, the National Anthem being played on the Viceroy's arrival and "Rule Britannia" on the conclusion of the proceedings.

The Viceroy said he was glad to have the opportunity of appearing in the capacity of a resident of Simla. He regretted that it had not been found possible for a good and sufficient reason to accept the proposal that a deputation of Her Majesty's Indian subjects should proceed to England to personally offer to Her Majesty the congratulations of India on this occasion. But though it had been his duty to make this disappointing announcement, he felt the deepest sympathy with the wish of those gentlemen who desired to proceed to England, and their disappointment at not being able to do so. He would leave it to the gentlemen whose names were mentioned in the programme to lay before the audience the several proposals in the order of detail, and he had therefore only a few words to say with regard to the object of the meeting. His Excellency thought it was unnecessary to inquire whether it was true or false that the residents of Simla were absolutely removed from the ordinary course of business and from the sympathy of their fellow subjects; but he hoped that this event would be made an occasion for setting side all differences of opinion and uniting in one common prayer, in one common thanksgiving, in one common manifestation, not only of loyalty but of warm and tender admiration and affection for our Sovereign Lady, whose hold on our hearts strengthened and increased each year (cheers). He had no doubt that all present would agree that he could not call upon any one more fitted to take the first step in a movement of this kind than His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The Commander-in-Chief proposed the first resolution:—"That an address of loyalty and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress be presented by the Simla community on the approaching Jubilee Commemoration. He said the theme was not one that called for any very eloquent exposition, for although the reign of our beloved Sovereign had more than justified the proud name of "Victoria," yet it had been so indelibly stamped and characterised by Her Majesty's innate truth in all her dealings with her subjects that to describe it in anything like exaggerated language would be but to mar the beauty of its sacred simplicity. And yet, continued His Excellency, no more marvellous chapter has been written in the history of the world than the story of the English Empire in the Victorian era. Called just sixty years ago, when yet but a mere girl, to take upon herself the cares of ruling the greatest empire the world has ever seen, she has yet worn the crown of England through all that long vista of years so worthily and so well that not even a passing breath of reproach has dared for a moment to dim the lustre of its brightness (cheers); and in her private life she has equally proved herself that queen of womanhood—a perfect wife, mother and friend (cheers). Her voice has been the first raised in what she has believed to be the right, and hers has been the first message of sympathy to her subjects in their sorrow or loss (cheers). Sir George White concluded his eloquent reference to the widespread sympathy shown by the Queen to her subjects in all parts of the world and more particularly to the millions of India; and called upon his listeners to unite with their kith and kin beyond the seas in showing their loyal love for India's Empress and for England's Queen (cheers.)

Mr. Fillingham, the Master of the Punjab Trades Association, seconded the resolution. He said the trading community felt quite mindful of the great honour done them in asking him, as their representative, to second the motion; and speaking on their behalf he must say they did not yield to anyone in their loyalty and devotion to the Queen-Empress. The resolution was put by the Viceroy and carried with enthusiasm.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab moved and seconded the resolution that the occasion be commemorated in some practical form. He prefaced his remarks regarding the form which the commemoration might take, by saying that they were assembled to do honour to one to whom honour was due—to whom on account of the length and prosperity of her reign, the world-wide extent of her dominions, the wisdom and beneficence of her rule, the purity of her court, the beauty of her domestic relations, and her marvellous powers of sympathy, the world accorded and would accord for a long time pre-eminence (cheers.) The devotion which emotted the Queen was due to the combination of dignity and greatness with that perfect womanliness which evoked the enthusiasm of all loyal and chivalrous hearts; and truly it was meet, when providence has extended the blessings of this rule for a span of three score years, that we should be ready to forward any measure to celebrate such auspicious event (applause). Mr. Mackworth Young then proceeded to make various suggestions as to the practical form which the memorial might take, mentioning among others the establishment of a female hospital in Simla in connection with the Ripon Hospital, or a convalescent home for poor Europeans and Eurasians in the hills during the hot and rainy summer months for European and Eurasian children. He also referred to the fact that not a single statue of the Queen-Empress was to be found in the Punjab and possibly, if the commemoration movement in Simla was extended to the whole province, a statue might be provided. He would, however, leave the general committee to decide what should actually be done.

Sir James Westland seconded the resolution and supported the Lieutenant-Governor's suggestion as to giving poor Europeans and Eurasians the benefit of a sojourn in the healthy air of Simla.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Sir John Woodburn then moved that Jubilee grants should be made for treats to the various orphanages and charitable institutions of the town; that bonfires be lighted on the various hills; that Simla residents be invited to illuminate their houses, &c. He specially commended to the consideration of the general committee the opening of a subscription list to ensure the great and noble charities in Simla being benefited.

Colonel Bisset seconded the resoulution, which was carried.

Sir Edwin Collen moved that a general committee be appointed, with power to form executive committees, to carry out all the necessary details and to collect subscriptions. A list of names was adopted in which all sections of the community were represented, with Sir John Woodburn as chairman, Colonel Robertson as vice-chairman, Major Caran and Mr. Cullen as joint honorary secretaries, and Mr. Rose, Delhi and London Bank, as honorary treasurer. Colonel Robertson seconded the resolution, which was adopted *nem. con.*

General Morton moved a vote of thanks to the Viceroy for presiding. He pointed out that the family history of the noble house of Elgin was in more than one way connected with the long and prosperous reign of Her Majesty, as during that period India had been ruled by two Viceroys of that name, father and son (applause). The vote of thanks was cordially given, and the proceedings terminated.

The general committee have met and formed one executive committee to draw up the address, and a second for carrying out the details connected with the general scheme. It was stated that the suggestions that a bonfire and a feu-de-joie should be lited from Prospect Hill at night could not be entertained by the military authorities, but in place of this two military bands might be brought up to unite with the Highland Light Infantry in a torchlight-tattoo through Simla.

THE THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

THE Thanksgiving Service to be held on June 22 outside the west door of St. Paul's is to occupy fifteen minutes, eleven of which will be taken up by the "Te Deum" specially composed for the occasion by Dr. George C. Martin, the organist of St. Paul's. A choir, some 550 strong, drawn almost entirely from the churches of London, will be assembled upon the upper portions of the steps leading to the west door of the cathedral, while the massed bands of the Royal Artillery and of the School of Military Music at Kneller Hall, numbering nearly 200 players, will strengthen and support the singers. Over this imposing vocal and instrumental body Dr. Martin, stationed upon a conductor's rostrum which is to be erected in the centre of the terrace dividing the two flights of steps, will preside. In front of the choir and bands the various dignitaries, clerical and otherwise, who are to take part in the service will have their places. Dr. Martin will be informed of the procession's approach by electric signal, and the Queen will then be welcomed to St. Paul's by a joyous peal of the cathedral bells. Without further prelude, the "Te Deum"—the central feature of the day's ceremonial—will be sung. At the conclusion of the "Te Deum" the Versicles will be intoned by the whole body of canons and minor canons, the choir responding. Here again music expressly composed by Dr. Martin will be used. Then the dean and choir will intone the Lord's Prayer, after which, in all probability, a special Collect will be read by the Bishop of London. The Archbishop of Canterbury will pronounce the Blessing, and then the entire congregation will unite in singing, to the familiar "Old Hundredth," the hymn, "All people that on earth do dwell." To the strains of this final song of thanksgiving the Queen's procession will slowly leave the churchyard.

MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

FIFTY THOUSAND SOLDIERS AND SAILORS TO BE IN LONDON.

At the War Office the detail has been settled of the house-serving British troops selected to be employed in London on June 22, the occasion of the celebration of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

General his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught will be in supreme command of the troops—British, Colonial, and Indian—with Major-General Lord Methuen as his chief staff officer. The various units, as arranged, will be drawn from all parts of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and the muster will be considerably larger than was expected. To members of the Reserve and Auxiliary Services it will be a matter of gratification that the Militia and Volunteers of every military district in the country will be represented.

Appended is a summary of the military forces that will take part in the proceedings of the day :—

SUMMARY.

Corps.	Officers.	Warrant Officers	Sergeants	Trumpeters, Drummers and Buglers.	Rank and File.	All Ranks.	Horses.	Guns.
Cavy Household	86	6	120	24	540	776	690	—
Cavy of Line	288	25	488	97	2,770	3,668	3,380	—
Royal Artillery	110	—	198	117	2, 60	2,552	1,615	168
Foot Guards	196	7	240	112	3,500	4, 25	—	—
R. A. & R. E. as Inf'y	18	4	60	32	1,000	1,144	—	—
Infantry	600	50	750	400	12,500	14,700	—	—
Militia	371	21	456	132	5,200	6,200	—	—
A. S. Corps and A. O. Corps	12	4	30	6	300	352	—	—
Volunteers	200	—	200	100	8,000	8,500	—	—
Yeomanry	30	—	30	20	400	480	—	—
	1955	117	2582	1,017	36,410	42,461	5,715	168

In addition to the troops mentioned above, there will also be on duty in the metropolis detachments of bluejackets and Royal Marines, and of gentlemen cadets from Woolwich, Sandhurst, and Greenwich, Chelsea pensioners, and boys of the Duke of York's School. The Admiralty have not yet completed their arrangements; but it may be relied upon that in one way or another the grand total of sailors, soldiers, and Marines in London for the celebrations will reach 50,000. In the special instructions issued by the Commander-in-Chief, it is laid down that the royal procession to St. Paul's will be made up of mounted men only. It will contain as many Cavalry as can possibly be spared from other duties in London and all the Horse Artillery. The dismounted troops will line the streets.

An important and imposing item of the celebration will occur on the night of June 21, when it is proposed to have a grand torchlight tattoo in the grounds of Buckingham Palace. For this there will be massed the bands and trumpeters of the Life and Horse Guards, the bands and drums, pipers, and fifes of the three Foot Guards regiments, and the bands of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers. This great concourse of musicians will be conducted by Cavaliere Zavertal, the bandmaster of the Royal Artillery.

Commander Hawkins-Smith, commanding the Fire Queen, yacht of the Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, has been appointed master of the fleet in connection with the review to be held at Spithead next month, when, according to the plan forwarded to the Admiralty by the Mobilisation Committee, there will be 150 pennants assembled in addition to foreign ships. The vessels will be exclusively of modern build, from battleship of the Majestic class down to torpedo-boats. For the illumination of the fleet at night no fewer than 700,000 yards of wire and 170,000 incandescent lamps will be used. One of the most conspicuous ships in the lines will be the Powerful, which will be commissioned by Captain the Hon. Hedworth Lambton on June 8, but it is doubtful whether her sister, the Terrible, will be completed in time.

THE TRANSVAAL "DRIFTS" PAPERS.

FORECAST OF THEIR CONTENTS.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE CAPE.

EVERYONE at all familiar with South African affairs knows that a very serious crisis occurred in October, 1895.

The occasion of it was the closing of the Drifts by the Transvaal Government. The significance of this step has been fully explained both by Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Schreiner, before the South Africa Committee. Roughly stated, the object of closing the Drifts was to throttle the Cape railways. The Transvaal first endeavoured to handicap the Cape Railways traffic by high charges for the conveyance of goods across the fifty miles of their line from the Vaal River to Johannesburg. The Cape met these tactics first by lowered rates on their railways, and ultimately by unloading goods at the Vaal River and sending them the rest of the way by ox-wagon. The Vaal was crossed twice by these ox-wagons at the drifts or fords. President Kruger then closed the drifts against oversea traffic.

This action was held to be a clear infraction of the London Convention. Mr. Schreiner giving an opinion to that effect, and Mr. Chamberlain delivered an ultimatum on the subject. This had the desired effect, and the Drifts were reopened.

Before resorting to the extreme step of an ultimatum, Mr. Chamberlain secured the support of the Cape Ministry, which at the time included Mr. Schreiner, and which depended on the Dutch vote. This fact is of considerable significance as showing that—at any rate before the Raid—the Cape Dutch were expected to be willing in a just quarrel to go against their brethren in the Transvaal. Mr. Schreiner, in his evidence before the Committee, said that if the ultimatum had failed, and hostilities had ensued, Mr. Rhodes would have been able to carry the Dutch with him.

The papers referring to this matter are shortly to be laid before Parliament. Meanwhile "The Cape Times" gives the following forecast of what the papers will disclose :

Before enforcing the Convention as against the illegal closing of the drifts, Mr. Chamberlain, to assure himself that the Colonial Ministry was in earnest, and would "face the music," laid down the following conditions.

In case of another Western Expedition, or military demonstration being necessitated by the Transvaal Government defying the ultimatum and the Convention, the Colony was to :—

1. Give any such troops free transit over the Colonial railways.

2. Share equally with the British Exchequer the expense of the operations.

3. Assist the operations, if required, by supplying an auxiliary contingent of Colonial mounted troops (C.M.R.).

The object of the bargain was evidently to make it impossible for a Government, dependent on the Afrikander vote, to wash its hands of the quarrel after drawing the Imperial Factor into it.

Ministers, apparently, were so confident that the Transvaal would "climb down" if once the ultimatum were sent, and so unable with any consistency or decency to decline point-blank to share the risks of action taken solely at Colonial request and for Colonial interests, that they gave the required undertaking.

The third condition, which raises a very debatable point of policy, is the one which most clearly shows how sure the Ministry must have been that the whole undertaking was purely academic, and would never have to be carried out.

The event they can claim proved them right. That which neither prayers nor arguments from Colony or Free State could achieve was brought about by the ultimatum like magic.

At any rate, the ready production of the papers shows that the Premier believes himself to have an extremely good case to go on, when all is known. He and Mr. Faure are the members of this Government who were also members of the one in question. The other members were Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Schreiner, Mr. Frost, and Mr. Laing. It is said that the assent of every single member of the Cabinet (as might be expected in so important a matter) was obtained before the undertaking was given.

Some of these statements had already been disclosed, months ago, in Mr. Stead's political novel "The History of the Mystery." What is now in the above disclosure is the willingness of the Cape Ministry to send an auxiliary contingent to join the Imperial forces.

THE question whether house-tax could not be increased from 7½ to 8½ per cent. formed the subject of an interesting debate in the Ootacamund Municipal Council on Tuesday. Mr. Schmidt was of opinion that the present tax should not be raised as there was already a cry among landlords against the increase of taxation, and that if the tax was raised the landlords would raise their rent, which would make it difficult for tenants to pay for houses. Mr. Tremenheere found no difficulty in the matter as the increase would be very little annually and that could be paid easily. Mr. Schmidt persisted that, if taxation was increased, rental would be increased, and visitors would then prefer going to England to coming to Ootacamund. Another Commissioner, Mr. Varthachelam Mudaliar, said, that in such a big place as Bombay the tax was only 7½ per cent. Three other Commissioners, two Europeans and one Parsee, emphasised the protest by jointly saying that it would be fruitless to own houses in Ootacamund. In vain did Mr. Tremenheere, as representing the Government, try to minimise the effects of the proposal. There was no getting over the fact that houses in Ootacamund are occupied only for six months, while the tax is paid for the whole year. The discussion, however, was cut short by Mr. Fakeer Muhamad proposing, and Mr. Schmidt seconding, that the house-tax be not raised at present. The proposition was carried by 9 against 3.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 24.

TO-DAY being a holiday on account of the Queen's birthday, the banks and local markets have been closed; and under Saturday evening's date the latest news received by Reuter, and calling for notice in this column having been chronicled, we now append our usual weekly comparative statement of the movement of Cotton:—

The American Crop figures to date give the following comparisons with the two previous seasons:—

	1897.	1896.	1895.
Week's Receipts	20,000	23,000	29,000
" Exports to U. Kingdom..	11,000	18,000	34,000
" Continent	46,000	22,000	17,000
Total receipts since 1st Sept. ...	6,514,000	5,968,000	7,792,000
" exports to U. K. do. ...	2,927,000	2,114,000	3,261,000
" " to Continent do. ...	2,767,000	2,099,000	3,974,000
" Stock in the Ports	370,000	370,000	550,000

The total visible supply of Cotton for all Europe on the 22nd instant, affords the following comparisons with the two previous years:—

	1897.	1896.	1895.
Total supply of all kinds	....	....	.....
" Surats	....	....	.....

For the United Kingdom only the figures are:—

	1897.	1896.	1895.
Stock in Liverpool	1,152,000	1,071,000	1,674,000
" London	.....	4,000	6,000
American Afloat	40,000	62,000	83,000
East Indian "	7,000	18,000	22,000
Total ...	1,209,000	1,158,950	1,787,550
Price of Middling-Americans ...	4 3-32d.	4 5-16d.	...
" Good Dholleras	3 13-32d.	3 13-32d.	...
Difference	23-32d.	29-32d.	...

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay, on Saturday, were as follows:—

Cotton	7,198 bales.
Wheat	4,225 cwts.
Linseed	2,422 "
Rapeseed	19,801 "
Gingellysead	951 "
Poppyseed	2,130 "
Castorseed	6,155 "
Rice	11,187 "

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE B I S N Co's s s Dumra, 762 tons, Captain E C Russell, will sail to-day for Karachi via Kathiawar Coast ports, with a general cargo and 65 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's ss Chanda, 1,306 tons, Captain F W Packham, which arrived in harbour on the 22nd instant from Calcutta (13th April) via coast ports brought a general cargo and 12 deck passengers.

THE Clan Line s s Clan Macrae, 1,964 tons, Captain W Elliott, which arrived in harbour on the 23rd instant from Manchester (23rd April), brought a general cargo. The vessel is consigned to Messrs Finlay, Muir and Co.

THE B I S N Co's s s Colaba, 1,107 tons, Captain N F Ferris, arrived in harbour on Sunday from Calcutta (9th May), with a general cargo. During the voyage she experienced fresh to strong S-W monsoon in the Bay of Bengal and then fine weather on the West Coast.

THE P and O Co's s s Mirzapore, 2,163 tons, Captain J F Jephson, which arrived in harbour on Sunday evening from China via Colombo, with Her Majesty's China and Australian Mails, a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr and Mrs Mamsdea, Mr Hajee Habib and son, Mr and Mrs Mamode and three children, Mrs Hanifabhai and two children, Mrs Hawabhoy and two children and 7 deck.

ARRIVALS.

May.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
23	Colaba s	Ferris	Calcutta, May 9.
24	Kola s	Shepherd	Karachi.

PROVINCIAL GAZETTE.

(*Punjab Gazette*, May 20.)

Lieut A A Irvine, Asst Commr, Jhelum, has obtained privilege leave of absence for two months and one month's special privilege leave of absence for service with the Chitral Force, from the 12th of May 1897.

Lala Damodar Das, B A, Offg Extra Asst Commr, Gurgaon, has obtained extraordinary leave of absence, without allowance, for six months, from the 16th of May 1897.

Lala Fohu Ram, B A, Extra Asst Commr, is transferred from the Hissar to the Gurgaon Dist.

Lieut B C Waterfield, Asst Commr, under Settlement training in the Jhelum Dist, is posted to Peshawar.

Lala Ram Nath, Extra Asst Commr, Jhang, has obtained privilege leave of absence for three months.

Lala Malhan Lal, B A, Extra Asst Commr, is transferred from the Lahore to the Jhang Dist.

Mr J G Lorimer, Asst Commr, Peshawar, is placed in charge of the Yusafzai Sub-Division, vice Capt H S Fox-Strangways.

The Hon'ble the Lieut Govr is pleased to make the following promotions among Extra Asst Commrs:—From—The 1st April 1897, vice Mr J A Robinson, Extra Asst Commr, 1st grade, retired.

Mian Hari Sing, Extra Asst Commr, 2nd grade, to be Extra Asst Commr, 1st grade.

Raja Jahandad Khan, Khah Bahadur, Extra Asst Commr, 3rd grade, to be Extra Asst Commr, 2nd grade.

Lala Sahib Ram, Extra Asst Commr, 4th grade, to be Extra Asst Commr 3rd grade.

Captain on his relinquishing charge of the office of Junior Secy to the Financial Commr, Pandit Hari Kishen, Kaul, M.A, is appointed to be an Extra Asst Commr of the 4th grade.

Asst Surgn J D Rebeiro, doing general duty at the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, is appointed to the Medical charge of Sheikh Budin from the 2nd of May 1897.

First class Military Asst Surgn J T Weston, Civil Surgn, Hissar, has obtained special leave in India on medical certificate for 4 months, from the 15th of Feb 1897.

The Gujranwala Sub-Division was re-converted into an Independent Executive Charge on the 23rd April 1897.

Rai Sahib Baichshi Ram Singh, Ex Engr, on transfer from the Rawalpindi Provincial Divn, resumed charge of the Independent Ex Charge at Gujranwala on the 23rd April 1897.

Lieut E N Stockley, R E, Asst Engr, is transferred from the Peshawar Independent Ex Charge to the Tochi Valley Independent Ex Charge.

Mr F W K Yeoman, Asst Engr, is transferred from the Delhi Provincial Division to the Simla Provincial Division.

THE WEATHER.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SIMLA, MAY 24.

Sunday's observations.—Pressure changes are again generally small in amount, but are more or less irregular in Northern India, indicating the continuance of unsettled conditions. The general tendency of pressure changes for the past four days is to diminish the gradients. Pressure to-day is in moderate excess in Burma and North-East India, and in slight to moderate defect in Upper India. Easterly winds generally obtain in the Gangetic Plain. Strong winds continue at the head of the Bay, and also in North Bombay, Rajputana, and Central India. A large but very shallow depression continues in Upper Sind and South Punjab, which mainly determines the winds in North-West India. Numerous thunder storms, in some cases with hail, occurred during the past 24 hours in Bengal, North Behar, the North-West Provinces, and the Deccan. Cherat, Lucknow, and Chakrata also report hailstorms. Mymensingh, Burdwan, Sibsagar, Dinajpur, Bogra, Darbhanga, and Raichur each received about an inch of rain. Feebly unsettled conditions continue in Northern India.

Monday.—Pressure has increased in the Peninsula and North-West India, and decreased in North-East India and Burma; but the chief feature of pressure changes is, as for some days past, their great irregularity, more especially in Northern India. Norwesters and thunderstorms have given numerous light to moderate showers in Upper Burma, Assam, and Bengal. Lashio, Saugor Island, and Dhubri each report an inch of rain. Local duststorms have occurred in the Punjab and Rajputana, and thunderstorms have given light showers to Agra, Roorkee, and Umbalia. The weather continues unsettled and showery in Kashmir, and an inch of rain fell yesterday at Srinagar. The temperature fell to five degrees in the Punjab yesterday, and is now most largely in excess in the Central Provinces, where it averages four degrees above normal. Thunderstorms gave moderate to heavy rain in Malabar, Konkan, and Bombay and Deccan yesterday. Cochin received three inches, Calicut two, and Belgaum, Goa, and Bijapur each an inch. Fine weather with light clouds and slight sea continues in Colombo. Unsettled weather, of the hot weather type, continues in Northern India.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA

Bombay, 23rd May, 1897.

Means of observations taken at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah.	inches 29·747
Temperature of the Air	degrees 88·5
Wet Bulb Thermometer	79·3
Dew Point	77·2
Relative humidity of Air	76·5
Extent of cloudy sky the whole sky clouded=10	3·8
Minimum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day	degrees 80·9
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	81·7
General Directions of wind*	NNW, ENE, WNW, S, W.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles 212

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

DEATHS.

PANDAY—May 24, opposite Panday's Sanitarium, Middle Colaba, Bombay, Cowasjee Framjee Panday, son of late Mr. Framjee Ruscomjee Panday, and Agent to Messrs. Ralli Brothers' Agency, Broach. Deeply regretted. Funeral will take place this (Tuesday) morning, at 7 o'clock.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

CARPENTER—May 10, at Hubli, S. M. Railway, the wife of Henry Carpenter, of a daughter.

MARDEN—May 15, at "The Home," Woodlands, Coonoor, the wife of B. A. Marden, of a daughter.

MUIR—May 20, at Ivy Villa, Mussoorie, the wife of J. W. Muir, B. C. S., of a daughter.

DEATH.

McDONALD—May 19, at Bangalore, Mrs. Mary A. McDonald, formerly of Ceylon, aged 73 years and 3 months.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns, should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1897.

THE dream of a railway from Port Said to Karachi is likely to remain a dream for many years, though the need for overland communication between India and England is ever present. The sea voyage from Brindisi to Bombay has almost reached, we should think, its shortest term, twelve days, but it is a sea voyage, and to avoid it, how many would, if it were possible, go hundreds of miles round, and submit to several days' delay. Mr. C. E. D. Black, in a paper read at the meeting of the Society of Arts, on the 5th May, expressed considerable surprise that with the ever increasing stream of passengers going to and fro between England and India every year, some real effort has not been made to establish a continuous line of rail, as far as is practicable, between the two countries. We garrison and govern a dependency peopled by 270,000,000 inhabitants from a base 6,000 miles away. We expect and exact from the Indian official frequent and detailed information and prompt obedience to orders from home. It it difficult, no doubt, to select a route for a railway, but there is a choice of routes, which capital and energy combined with adroit diplomacy might make and preserve. Mr. Black, seeing the necessity of laying a line which could be free from molestation or interruption, and which would be within the British sphere of influence, gives up the idea of a grand trunk line from Calais on through Constantinople, Asia Minor, and via Kandahar or Peshawar to India. This line would be the natural one if national jealousies could die out and if human and trade intercourse meant unbroken peace, but "passing through the very focus of the Eastern question it would not fulfil the idea of a British Imperial Line, designed to bridge over the physical gulf between Great Britain and her possessions in the East." This throws us back on the shortening of the route from the southern shores of the Mediterranean. In the ordinary course of things we do not contemplate the possibility of being unable to cross that sea, and we are also as sure as we can be of anything in the world that the entrepots, Marseilles, Brindisi, and Salonica, cannot all be shut at once to us, nor can we lose at one fell blow Gibraltar, Malta, and Cyprus, our stations of call and coal depots. Therefore, we would continue to make that part of our journey by steamer. But arrived at Port Said we could shorten the route by the Red Sea and across the Indian Ocean to Karachi or Bombay by taking train at Port Said, and travelling eastward across the peninsula of Sinai to the Gulf of El Akaba, and thence straight along the 30th parallel to Bussorah. From there the railway would cross the Shatel-Arab and Karun Rivers, and follow the coast line of the Persian Gulf and Makran to Karachi. This is the route that Mr. Black thinks safest and best. He admits that he has not explored the whole of the territory through which this suggested line should pass, but he has exhaustively studied all the literature, both published and official, that has to do with it.

Now for the *pros* and *cons* of this great project. It would be within the British sphere of influence, the first or western part would be laid through a province of Egypt, the easterly, before it joined our Indian railway lines, would be laid along the coast of Baluchistan, now a part of British India. There remains, it is true, the central portion, and far the longest, that through Arabia and Persia. The British rule is not there yet, but our influence, Mr. Black thinks, is greater than that of any other suzerain power. There might be some difficulty about one or two narrow strips of territory south-west of Bussorah, where the Sultan rules, but Mr. Black thinks it might easily be surmounted. The physical obstructions are by no means insuperable. From Port Said to Bussorah the line would run through Arabia Petræa, a stony but stable ground. There is on the way a considerable fertile depression which the lecturer thinks could not be better adapted for a line of railway, had Nature moulded it on purpose. The only unexplored bit is beyond this, between El Juf and the pilgrim route from Yemen and Bagdad. This tract is 200 miles long, but the probability is that it differs little from the surrounding country. There are neither mountains nor rivers to be crossed or turned until the Shatel-Arab is reached. Here comes the crux; that river and the Karun inundate the alluvial lands along their banks occasionally. But engineers have easily bridged more wayward streams, and swing-bridges would carry the railway over the rivers. The distance from Bushire to Bunder Abbas presents no difficulty. Mr. Palgrave, Mr. Treacher Collins, and Colonel Holdich all agree that this is a very suitable country through which to run a line of railway. It is well supplied with water and all the necessaries of life, and the physical formation of the tract offers no great engineering trouble. This line, then, if it were made, would bring London within eight days of Karachi, and it would run within the British sphere of influence. The Persian and Baluch sections would be near the coast, and in case of war complications could be protected by British gunboats. The Arabian section lies between, and is protected from attack by two more or less impassable deserts. Mails, passengers, troops, would arrive in India or return therefrom in half the time at present occupied in transit. One point on which Mr. Black is urgent is the advisability of establishing a depot for the Indian troop relief near the northern end of the Suez Canal. Twelve thousand men pass to India and home yearly, and if a garrison were formed between Port Said and the Syrian frontier, there would be permanently a considerable force at hand in case of war contingencies, and the Indian reliefs would be far more easily worked from such a base. If the Continental Powers were inclined to cavil at our establishment of this relief depot, and at our building of the railway, Mr. Black is quite satisfied that we can show our right to direct communication with our Indian Empire. Russia has succeeded in laying a trans-Caspian and a trans-Siberian Railway five thousand miles long through her dominions.

The facility with which the Suez Canal can be blocked, or can block itself even in peace, is another argument for a line of railway. It is no uncommon thing for fifty or sixty vessels to get blocked by the unintentional grounding of one steamer. If war was declared between any two or more Powers, what either could do in the way of a deliberate destruction of that narrow water-way is very easily imagined. The lecturer, speaking on this subject to a "very distinguished military authority," was informed that "in case of war England ought to *prevent* the Suez Canal from being blocked by excluding any vessel having sinister objects." This precaution would doubtless be a wise one, if there were any means of putting it in practice, but as a way of preventing an unfriendly block in the Suez Canal it is absolutely useless. How prove a sinister intention if well concealed? In case of war the alternative route now is round the Cape. With the railway round Port Said to Karachi, we at least would be independent of the Canal route. It is satisfactory to find that Mr. Black does not think the railway need all be constructed at once. The trans-Arabian section, that from Port Said to Bussorah, about a thousand miles, would turn the Suez Canal difficulty and leave only the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea to be traversed. The cost of this would not be prohibitive, a subsidy would certainly have to be paid to the Bedouin Amir of Jebel Shomer, and possibly smaller sums to petty local Chiefs, for leave to run the line through their territories, and Mr. Black thinks they would all welcome the making of the railway. The traffic on the line would probably be considerable. Even without being sanguine, there is little doubt that passengers would be forthcoming at all seasons of the year from Arabia, Mesopotamia, Persia, and India, and if, as Mr. Black hopes, the line would later be linked with those running through India and Burma, no estimate can be considered exaggerated of the passenger traffic that would fill the carriages. As for goods traffic, it is difficult to say, as the expense of transit for all but the most precious articles would leave to the steamers practically the monopoly of merchandise transit. The pilgrim traffic would receive an impulse which would add to the fervour of the Mahomedan world, and throng the Holy Places year after year. Three years is the time allotted for the construction of the railway from Port Said to Karachi. The cost is calculated at £5,000 per mile, or £12,000,000 for its entire length; the rolling-stock would cost £3,000,000 more. Should the public be tempted to subscribe this capital, Mr. Black is certain that if Government are satisfied of the national necessity of such a line and sanction it, the shareholders would soon receive interest on their capital, and travellers and statesmen would rejoice at the abridging of the distance between England and her great Indian dependency. There is so much that is inspiring in all this that it is sad to find that Sir F. Goldsmid and other authorities have their doubts as to its feasibility. But that is another story.

THE Plague and Famine do not seem to have told quite so severely on the coasting commerce of this country as on our trade transactions abroad. The total value of the import of merchandise, excluding treasure, was 3,263 lakhs of rupees, as against 3,744 lakhs and 3,857 lakhs in the two preceding years. The falling off in exports was not quite so large, the figures for the year being 3,190 lakhs as against 3,407 lakhs and 3,256 lakhs in the two preceding years. The net result is that the trade was smaller than it has been since 1893-94. There was, however, a rather larger shipment of treasure than in the previous year, and this brings up the total private trade to 6,81½ lakhs as compared with 7,460 lakhs in 1895-1896. The period represented by the latter figures, however, was exceptionally good owing to the large outturn of cotton, and the brisk business done in cotton goods and yarn as well as in grain. When compared with the two preceding years, the coasting trade appears to have withstood the strain of the scarcity and the pestilence wonderfully well. Under ordinary circumstances the coasting commerce is expansive, for during the last ten years it has grown at the rate of one and a-half crores of rupees per annum. There can be no doubt that when we return to normal conditions this expansion will be maintained. The railway now enters into competition with the sea traffic in many places where the latter used to have an absolute monopoly, and the fact that both means of distribution flourish and expand side by side shows how great the industrial and commercial development of the country has been in recent years. As an evidence that the old order is changing, giving place to the new, it is interesting to observe that fully three-fourths of the tonnage engaged in the coasting trade is now steamer tonnage. The number of sailing vessels which entered with cargoes the various ports was 86,253, as compared with a hundred thousand odd in 1895-96. The number of steamers which entered with cargoes was not more than about one-tenth of this total, but they took fully three-fourths of the trade. The small coasting vessels by which in former days business, not only with Indian ports, but also with the Persian Gulf and the East African Coast, was carried on, are being disestablished. Native traders are learning more and more the superior advantages both in safety and in promptitude of delivery of the coasting steamers, and hence as buggalows fall out of the ranks, disabled from old age, they are not replaced. This class of vessel will of course continue to be represented in the coast sea traffic for many years to come, but it will form a decreasingly small percentage of the total. It is worth noting that the trade carried on between Indian ports is about one-third of that which is conducted by sea with foreign countries. The accounts for the year ending on March 31st give no details as to the character of the coasting trade in merchandise. We must wait for these particulars until the issue, months hence, of the various Provincial Customs reports and of Mr. O'Conor's Annual Review. It may be assumed, however, that the usual order in value of the principal commodities distributed by coasting steamers will be pretty well maintained, viz., raw cotton, grain and pulse, cotton manufactures, seeds, jute manufactures, spices and oils.

SYMPATHY would go out more readily towards Baron Dhanis' expeditionary force in the Congo State and his murdered officers, were it not for the horrifying and still unrebutted charges preferred against the military methods of the Belgian civilisers of Darkest Africa, recently in the House of Commons. Sir Charles Dilke stated on the authority of officers and others that Baron Dhanis' European force of some five hundred or six hundred men with eleven hundred native levies were supplemented by 25,000 warlike cannibals, to whose effective co-operation the success of the operations carried on for a period of six months in a remote and hitherto unsubjected region was mainly due. The Commissariat arrangements of these terrible auxiliaries were of the simplest. Many conquering hosts have lived in the country which they overran. These went one better, and ate up the vanquished populations. After a victory there was a cannibal feast; they banqueted on the bodies of the slain. What could not be consumed was providently smoke-dried and preserved for future use. It is even hinted that the supplies were augmented by indenting on the village populations, which were turned into provender in the same rough and ready fashion. It was stated, apparently as an explanation—it could scarcely be urged as a justification,—that unless these African Allies were permitted to avail themselves of their traditional method of living on the enemy, the expedition must have returned without having accomplished its civilising mission. As Baron Dhanis, Major Lothaire, and some twenty-seven other Belgian officers attached to the column have possibly not even yet heard of the grave charges preferred against some of its proceedings, it will be well to act on Mr. Curzon's suggestion and assume that the charges are over-charged. And it is only fair to suspend our judgment also in respect to the murderers of six of the Baron's officers.

THE question of the supply of suitable iron ores for the steel and iron industries of Great Britain is attracting a good deal of attention at present. The first note of alarm was struck by the Duke of Devonshire's speech at the Barrow Hematite Steel Company, and this was followed up by a special article in the *Times* on "British Iron and Steel Industries." Their peril and their prospects have opened the eyes of the public to the danger of American competition beating England in the struggle for this trade. There does not seem to be any immediate danger of the rich hematite ores running short, but iron smelters are already looking to such places as Grangesburgh, in Sweden, and the Arctic Circle, to supply future demands, and to supplement Belboo. On this subject Mr. J. P. Goodridge, of the Indian Civil Service, has written to the *Times* to point out that there are splendid accommodations of the richest varieties of hematite red and brown ore in the Chanda District of the Central Provinces. Mr. Goodridge's letter is worthy of very careful attention. All interested in the export trade of India should move in this matter, with a view to securing such a revision of the Mining Rules laid down by the Government of India as would hold out greater inducements to capitalists and explorers to come over and develop the great mineral wealth of India. It is to be regretted that 25 years have been allowed to elapse without a further effort having been made to utilize the vast coal resources at Warora and in other places in the Wardha Valley for smelting the iron lying close by. If the cost of transport of the iron ore would be too great to enable it to compete with the Spanish ores and others now largely imported into England there could be no doubt that pig iron manufacture would be most profitable, provided that the Warora Coal could be got to "coke" or could otherwise be utilized for smelting purposes. Indian iron mining is undoubtedly capable of great development.

IT is never safe to prophesy, but with the cloudy skies and sultry heat which are now compassing us about, to our dire discomfort, we cannot help looking forward to an early and welcome monsoon. The irregular currents reported by the weather observers, and the thunderstorms and rain which have visited India fitfully from Colombo to Poona, seem to indicate that in a very few days the rains will be upon us.

THE P. and O. S. N. Co.'s s.s. Ganges, with English mails of the 14th instant, left Aden, at midnight, on Sunday, and is expected to ar

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE TURKO-GRECIAN WAR.

DISBANDMENT OF THE GREEK IRREGULARS.

LONDON, MAY 24.

The Greek Government has disbanded the Irregulars, who have done more harm than good to Greece.

ARRIVAL OF AMERICAN AND FRENCH VOLUNTEERS FOR GREECE.

Five hundred American and fifty French volunteers have arrived at Athens, and the Government at once sent them to the front.

GLOOMY PROSPECTS FOR GREECE.

At the European capitals the prospects of Greece are generally regarded as gloomy.

PAYMENT OF WAR INDEMNITY DOUBTFUL.

Opinion is expressed that the payment of any war indemnity to Turkey will be a most difficult matter for Greece.

REVOLUTION FEARED IN GREECE.

Disturbances, even a revolution, are feared on the return of the Greek army to Athens.

RIOTING BY ITALIAN VOLUNTEERS.

At Zaverda, yesterday, the Italian Volunteers, mostly composed of Anarchists, rioted, because the Greek Government forbade their return to the capital.

Two Italians were shot dead and six wounded.

REVOLTS IN THE CONGO STATE.

BRUSSELS, MAY 24.

Reports that serious revolts have taken place among the troops of the Congo Free State, including a portion of Baron Dhanis' expeditionary force, have been confirmed.

Six European officers have been murdered.

Baron Dhanis has collected the troops who have remained loyal, and has gone to Nyangwe to suppress the disturbances there.

LORD ROBERTS.

LONDON, MAY 24.

Lord Roberts has been appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Colonial Jubilee forces.

THE BRITISH MISSION TO ABYSSINIA.

The British Mission to the Emperor Menelik is now returning from Abyssinia, and will reach Harrar on Thursday next.

THE IN-COMING MAILS.

ADEN, MAY 24.

The P. and O. Company's s. s. Ganges, with English mails of the 14th instant, left here, for Bombay, at midnight yesterday.

The same Company's s. s. Australia left, for Colombo and Australia, at the same time.

THE BIRTHDAY PARADE AT POONA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, MAY 24.

The Birthday parade was held at Poona, this morning, on the General Parade Ground, about 3,000 men, all in arms, being present. The troops consisted of a Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, 2nd Bombay Lancers, Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Bombay Infantry, 2nd Brigade Durham Light Infantry, 2nd Bombay Grenadiers, and 19th Bombay Infantry. General Duncan, Commanding Poona Station, took command. A salute of thirty-one guns was fired by the Artillery in three portions, the Infantry firing a feu de joie, the massed Bands playing the National Anthem.

The General called for three cheers for the Queen-Empress, which were heartily given. The whole garrison then marched past in fine order, and the proceedings terminated. The morning was hot and sultry, despite the storm of last evening. A very large crowd occupied the Grand Stand and the General Parade Ground.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

SIMLA, MAY 24.

The usual Birthday State dinner and levee took place, to-night, at the Viceregal Lodge.

HEAVY RAIN IN SIMLA.

The Second Punjab Volunteer sports were rendered somewhat of a fiasco by heavy and continuous rain and hail.

JUBBULPORE NEWS.

DEATH OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DIVISION.

JUBBULPORE, MAY 24.

Mr. Priest, I.C.S., Commissioner, inspected the Cholera camp at Kurai, Sangor District, last Thursday, the 20th and returned here on Friday. He was taken ill on Saturday evening, and died last Sunday evening, and was buried the same night. His death has cast a gloom over the station.

The Birthday parade was held this morning, under the command of Major Foster.

The public health is satisfactory.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAM.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, MAY 22.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Menzies, arrived here from Calcutta, Madras and Colombo this morning.

HONGKONG, MAY 23.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Peshawur extra) arrived here this morning.

SINGAPORE, MAY 22.

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer Gisela, from Kobe, left for Bombay this afternoon.

COLOMBO, MAY 22.

The Austrian Lloyd's steamer Vindobona, from Kobe, left for Bombay this afternoon.

MAY 24.

French mail steamer Eridana, from Calcutta, arrived.

Orient Line mail steamer Oruba, from Suez, arrived.

The Messageries Company's steamer Salazie arrived at Suez on Sunday at midnight.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MAY 22.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed dull. Surats quiet.

Good Dhollera	3 13-32
The Manchester Market has been quiet.	
2½ per cent. Consols	113 5-8
3 per cent. Rentes	103¾
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	118½
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	61 11-16
Bar Silver	27 5-8

THERMOMETER READINGS.

[SUNDAY NIGHT—MAY 23.

10 p.m.	83·4

MONDAY—MAY 24.

6 a.m.	82·6
10 a.m.	87·0
2 p.m.	89·6
6 p.m.	88·6

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT).

LONDON, MAY 7.

In so far as the inception of new business of magnitude is concerned, distinct signs of slackening and of increased caution have arisen during the past month. Of the volume of production and traffic there is, indeed, hardly any diminution. Railway receipts and Bankers' Clearing House returns at the commercial centres still continue well in advance of those for the corresponding period last year. In various important branches, however, new orders are not being placed with anything like freedom, and buyers are acting very circumspectly. This careful disposition is not surprising in view of the powerful disturbing forces at present menacing the political and commercial world. The war in Eastern Europe, with its unknown issues, plague and monetary scarcity in India, the unsettled condition of trade with the United States, and the unpleasant look of South African affairs, are factors of obvious gravity, to which those who are responsible for the conduct of large business enterprises are bound to give heed. The effect of the political unsettlement is perhaps most strikingly indicated in the falling off of transactions in the London share market, as shown by the returns of the Clearing House on Stock Exchange pay days during April. In 1896, the month's clearings, on those days, amounted to £93,684,000, whilst this year they were only £77,337,000, the decrease being £16,347,000, or at the rate of 17·4 per cent. This decline affords probably a better gauge of the caution inspired by the outbreak of war upon that sensitive barometer, the Stock Exchange, than a mere comparison of prices of stocks and shares. In the Clearing House returns of the commercial and industrial centres, the effects of great disturbances are not so quickly seen, because they represent transactions extending over long periods, which are less subject to sudden variation than those of the stock markets. Little alteration is perceptible in the textile trades. In the Manchester market for cotton goods and yarns there is no improvement. The spinning department is still relatively better than that of weaving, but spinners are hardly in so favourable a position as they were a month ago in respect either of the amount of orders in their hands or the working margin.

The British Consul at Suakin states in his recent report that during the year 1896 there was a decline in every branch of trade in the district, owing to the revival of Madhist activity in the early part of the year, and the subsequent expedition to Dongola which caused a general feeling of uncertainty and the interruption of the chief trade routes in the interior. The imports, indeed, were the lowest since the troubled years of 1886-88, when Osman Digna lay encamped almost within sight of the town and the ports of Akik and Trinkitat were closed to trade. The Suakin-Berber road was closed, with trifling exceptions, to outgoing caravans from the last week in February to the end of the year. The exports, too, were lower than any year since 1891, that of gum, which is the most important, being nearly sixty per cent. less than the previous year. Caravans from the Soudan with gum continued to arrive in Suakin, until 18th September, when the importation of all produce from the Soudan was prohibited. Caravans still persisted in quitting Berber, where gum was selling at unprecedentedly low prices; but, being unable to approach Suakin they had to deposit their freight at Kokreb and at other points along the road. Later in the year, in deference to the protests of the merchants, the military authorities allowed this to be brought in from the various stations in the desert, where it was being spoiled by exposure to the weather, on condition that it was all deposited in Government stores until such time as they might see fit to allow its exportation. In this way, 3,002 camel-loads, or fifty tons, of gum entered Suakin in December, 1896, and January, 1897, and a considerable amount more was known to be on the road from Berber, though it is quite uncertain when it will be allowed to enter the town. Ivory has ceased to figure largely in the exports of Suakin, and there was a tendency for the mother-of-pearl-fishers to take their cargoes to Massowah, rather than Suakin, where there were less facilities for sale, and also because there was the danger of able-bodied negroes amongst the crews being enlisted for service in the Soudanese battalions. New lines of steamers to the port were either running, or about to be started.

The acceptance by the Secretary of State of tenders for India Council Bills below 1s. 3d. is causing some uneasiness in business circles. "I wonder," writes a sufferer "from Manchester," if the Secretary of State for India went off to Furzedown yesterday to play golf, leaving word with the office boy to accept any tenders for Council bills that might come in. The result of his selling below 1s. 3d. has caused a panic in exchange and a paralysis here in the demand for India goods. If the rate does not recover it will mean further stoppage of looms, and the Indian Government itself will be face to face with a heavy deficit, owing to its drafts realising so much less than they would if sold at 1s. 3d. or over. When will our Government—pledged to give us currency reform—gives us a par of exchange with our largest customers, who are also subjects of the same Empire?"

Rumours have been current in the city of the probability of a new Japanese gold loan for five million sterling being issued here at an early date. With regard to these reports the *Daily News* from inquiries in good quarters, states that they are at least premature. That a new internal loan for about that amount is anticipated may be taken as probable, says the authority named, and there appears reason to believe that overtures may have been made to persuade the Japanese Government to make the issue in this country. Before this could be done, however, the consent of the Government in Japan would have to be given, and under ordinary circumstances Parliament will not reassemble there until towards the close of the year.

In their circular on the Indian and Ceylon tea share market, Messrs. Gow, Wilson, and Stanton report, that the quiet tone generally prevailing for a fortnight past has now been succeeded by a development of more activity, and an increase in the volume of business done has been recorded. The reports of the companies for last year continue to come out freely and show that, on the whole, 1896 was a favourable year for the industry. The Indian crop is now practically sold, and very little more can be brought forward on garden account until the new season's tea arrives. The market for Ceylon tea has become stronger since Easter, and sales have been steady in spite of heavy arrivals. The following additional dividends have been announced:—Indian: Balijan 7½ per cent., making 12½ per cent for the year; Chubwa 6½ per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year; Darjeeling Company, 6 per cent. for the year; Doom Dooma 7½ per cent., making 12 1-2 per cent. for the year; Eastern Assam Company, 4 per cent. for the year; Kamroop Tea Association, 15 per cent. for the year; Lebong 10 per cent., making 15 per cent. for the year. Ceylon: Alliance 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year; Ceylon Tea plantations ordinary 8 per cent. making 15 cent. for the year: Ceylon and Oriental ordinary 4 per cent. making 7 per cent. for the year, preference 3 per cent. making 6 per cent for the year; Eastern Produce preference 2½ per cent. making 5 per cent for the year, ordinary 4 per cent. making 8½ per cent. for the year; Highland Tea Company 3 per cent. making 7 per cent. for the year; Imperial Ceylon Tea Estates, 5 per cent. for the year; Newera Eliya 2 per cent. making 6 per cent. for the year; Poona galla Valley, Ceylon, 3 per cent. making 6 per cent. for the year; Rangalla 5 per cent. making 8 per cent. for the year.

The inclusion in the new Canadian Customs Tariff of a clause providing for a differential scale of import duties is a departure of great moment, which the mercantile and industrial community at home, and especially the Chambers of Commerce, may be expected to discuss with much earnestness, as soon as its purport and consequences are fully realised. At present these are hot in all respects quite clear. There are to be two import tariffs, the general one applying to the productions of countries where Canadian products are not admitted on "reciprocal" terms, and the preferential tariff applying to imports from such countries as do admit them on these terms. The duties in the letter are to be 12½ per cent. in the first year, and 25 per cent. thereafter, below the duties in the general tariff. These differences are to extend to all kinds of merchandise except alcohol, tobacco and sugar. At present, so far as we can see, the only countries whose products the perferential tariff will embrace are the United Kingdom and possibly New South Wales and some of the Crown colonies. Only goods produced in the British islands have, however, so far been declared entitled to be admitted under the preferential or "reciprocal" tariff. Whether or not it may be extended further must depend on the interpretation given to the words "reciprocal terms." This interpretation rests in the hands of the Controller of Customs; that is to say, in the hands of the Government. The announcement of the new policy of Mr. Laurier's Administration has been received in Canada with surprised interest, and, on the whole, with much approval, although its full consequences are confessedly not yet clearly seen.

In his report on the trade of Beira the British Consul stated that the trade of the port for last year was larger than that of any previous year, and the increase was spread over imports and goods in transit. The imports increased from £160,570 in 1895 to £302,140 last year, and goods in transit from £142,960 to £191,800. The exports were only £17,900—a small decline. The increase in imports was largely due to the large amount of railway material. The produce exported was really greater than that of the previous year, the amount of coin sent being less. The growth of the trade during the year was attributable to a variety of causes, including the development of the Mozambique Company's territory, consequent on the subjugation of Gungunbama, the war in Mashonaland, the rinderpest, and the scarcity of native food-stuffs, which led to increased imports of transport material and grain, improvement in the harbour, the completion of telegraphic communication with Salisbury, new railway works, and a second bank at Beira. The chief obstacle to local prosperity was the scarcity of labour, the want of direct and regular communication with England, and the heavy import duty and landing charges. Since the spread of the rinderpest a trade in cattle with Madagascar had sprung up. The cotton and woollen shirts and underclothing, in which there was a considerable trade, were sent from Germany and Switzerland, the piece-goods from Holland, beer from Scotland and America, the German beer being ousted, glass from Belgium, candles chiefly from Belgium, while the imports from England are galvanised iron, cotton and woollen blankets and rugs, tinned provisions, guns, ready-made clothing, paints, and boots. No figures were available to show the exact proportion of British trade to that of other countries, but the following general facts showed how important British trade was. Most of the cargo was imported in British vessels. The landing company was British, as were also the railway company and all their *employes*. The Principal and busiest storekeepers and forwarding agents were British, and the language employed in business was English. The British population of 120 was double what it was three years previous, and was second only to the Portuguese; if taken along with the British Indians was greater than all other nationalities together, excepting the Portuguese.

Mr. Consul Warburton, in a report from La Rochelle, says that British merchants are by no means united in their views regarding the advantage of British Consuls following German methods in fostering trade, as those firms who have already got a connection and a business in a foreign country which they have gradually built up by continued attention involving the initial expenditure of large sums of money, emphatically object to other firms which have not done so, and wish to get a footing being assisted to a trade by State-paid commercial travellers. That the firms with established foreign connections should look askance at proposals for placing additional facilities at the command of their new and less prosperous rivals is natural. But it by no means follows that the demand for these facilities is unreasonable. What merchants want are facts, and facts of practical use can certainly be furnished by Consuls to a greater extent than they are now. Also there cannot be two opinions as the importance of issuing Consular reports promptly. The communications which are already made under the head of "Miscellaneous," as distinguished from the annual reports, might with advantage be increased in number, and in the scope of their information. We are disposed to think that the functions of the Consuls will in due time be much widened on the commercial and economic side. Trustworthy and precise information will always be welcome to British merchants who are really alive to their interests. If a Consul hears of something useful, let him send it along, just as if he were a special correspondent. As it is, much of the matter in consular reports is absolutely ancient and useless. In Mr. Warburton's report there is the inevitable insistence on the uselessness of sending out circulars to foreign countries printed in English, and with only English weights and measures quoted. By this time there must surely be no British firm of would-be export merchants who have not had this warning dinned into their ears.

The renewal of gold exports from New York has naturally attracted attention, and has given rise to speculations as to whether the drain of the yellow metal from the United States which caused so much embarrassment to the American Treasury during Mr. Cleveland's administration and necessitated the raising of gold loans in order to replenish the reserve held for the redemption of the greenback when presented is about to be renewed on a large scale. For some months past the balance of trade has been so largely in favour of the United States that the reason for shipments of gold seems obscure, and the movement has therefore, perhaps, caused the more uneasiness in Wall-street. It is, of course, possible that with the increase of confidence that the so-called retroactive clause of the Dingely Tariff Bill will not be put into operation, arragements have been made for a large increase of imports into the United States in anticipation of the advancad duties, and that this has had some influence in changing the relative indebtedness of America and Europe. Statistics just published, showing increased exports from the Bradford district to the United States during April give some conformation to this view. It is said, too, that Austria has been willing to pay a relatively high price for gold and that the shipments from the United States are really for that country. Considerable purchases of silk in Japan on American account have recently been reported, and some of the gold shipped may be in settlement of indebtedness in that quarter.

As anticipated would be the case, the banks are now taking three months' bankers' acceptances from the brokers at 1 per cent., so that the open market working rate is only a fraction above that figure. The larger amount of cash seeking employment, and the competition for bills render it impossible for rates to be maintained. No further important movement is shown in the Continental exchanges, and the demand for gold in the open market has, for the time being, at any rate, practically ceased. To-morrow nearly three millions will be paid over by the Chinese representative to the credit of Japan, but it is not now thought likely that the transfer of this sum will take any great sum from the market, and therefore rates are not expected to be materially affected. At the same time, although the outflow of gold from New York has for the moment ceased, it is probable that further amounts would be shipped from that quarter were there to be an increased inquiry for the Continent. Apart from political incidents, therefore, the outlook is that the present easy condition of the market will continue.

"WITH GREEK AND TURK."

Mr. Stephen Crane, author of the Red Badge of Courage, has been sent to the seat of war by the *Westminster Gazette* to give his impressions of Greek and Turk. He left Marseilles in the French mail steamer Guadiana, bound for Athens. As there were mails on board for the French and other squadrons the steamer proceeded first to Suda Bay which enabled Mr. Crane to obtain an Impression of the Concert, in the *Gazette* of May 3, from which we take the following interesting passages:—

Here they were, English, Russians, Germans, French, Italians, Turks, and Austrians, all living peaceably in the same cage.

The attention of the Guadiana was immediately divided in twelve ways. The seamen found the great flag-ship of France, the Admiral Charner, and loved it with their eyes, while the English commercial traveller had a short bitter quarrel with a fellow countryman as to the identity of a certain ship—whether she was the Barfleur or the Camperdown.

These great steel animals sat in a little bay menacing with their terrible glances a village of three rows of houses and a dock, and vast stretches of hillsides whereon there was not even a tree to shoot at for fun. A group of vicious little torpedo-boats also waited impatiently. To one who did not care to feel that there was something in this affair which weighed as much as a planet, it would be a joke of a kind. But it was the Concert of Europe. Colossi never smile.

It was hard to decide which of these national exhibits was the most interesting. The French flag-ship was imposing in the weird and solemn complexity of her appearance. Her deck and sides were a wilderness of dull grey appliances. She looked like a factory, this monster; whereas the Camperdown and more particularly the great Revenge, were so well-proportioned and trim that one had to refer to a memory of their tonnage before they became as impressive. Italy's squadron, to the novice, looked as well as any of them. Her two battle-ships were large and powerful, and the Etna was obviously the best cruiser in the harbour. The Russian flag-ship lay near the French ships, while the Italians were rather close to the English. The Kaiserin Augusta was aloof and alone. On the other hand, the Austrian hesitated in the middle of the situation.

Launches and gigs innumerable played around the Guadiana, and officers of all kinds came up the side. The play of the launches and gigs absorbed the attention of the passengers because a strong wind was blowing down the harbour, and it made the management of the small craft enough of a trick. The French made the most uproar, and they were the authors of whatever bungling was done. They were at the same time by far the proudest and most conscious. The eyes of the world were upon them surely, and they wanted to do everything with such heaven-born accuracy that they lost their minds at times.

Once, a launch from the Russian flagship lay on the water waiting for the officer, who was on board the Guadiana, to signal to come for him. Her crew lounged under the weather bulwark, and she swung slowly and peacefully over the little waves. It was great then to see a French launch come flying down the harbour, turn to pass on the lee of the Russian launch, and finally bat into her and scrape three yards of paint from her side. The Russian seamen looked at the Frenchmen, and the Frenchmen laughed, and nodded, and chattered, and apparently pointed out the incident as a bit of friendly wit, whereupon the Russians smiled, faintly smiled.

Indeed, at any time when a Russian boat was near a French one, the Frenchmen smiled with bright friendliness. And the echoing amiability of these men of the Czar was faint, certainly, merely like a shadow passing softly across the face of a stone figure, and to the onlooker there was something grim and strange in it.

Whenever officers came aboard of the mail steamer, the passengers crowded about them, and to the Frenchmen this was food and wine, apparently. They flourished and expanded and waxed taller under this nourishment. They were sublime. As for the Russians, they didn't care. The lieutenant who came for the British squadron's mail marked somewhat, because seventy-five people crowded to hear him stagger through the French language, and it bored him. Down in the launch, however, there was a middy who was a joy. He was smaller than a sparrow, but—my soul—how bright and Napoleonic and forcible he was! He was as busy as a hive of bees. He had no time for poses and genuflections and other amusements. Once, indeed, he looked up from his business to the deck of the ship, and this infant had a stern, quick glance, a man's eye. It was like hearing a canary bird swear to watch this tot put a speaking-tube to his mouth. He was so small that a life-sized portrait of him could be painted on a sovereign, this warrior.

She would be a fool of a mother who would trust him in a pantry where there were tarts, and his big sister can box his ears for some years to come, but of course there is no more fiery-hearted scoundrel in the fleet of the Powers than this babe. Of course he would drop to his knees and pray his Admiral a hundred prayers if by this he could be at his station on the Camperdown, and have her move into action immediately. Against what? Against anything. This is of the traditions that perforce are in the breast of the child. They could not be out of it under these circumstances. If another child of the Camperdown should steal this child's knife he might go to a corner and perhaps almost shed tears, but no hoary admiral can dream of the wild slaughter and Hades on the bosom of the sea that agitate this babe's breast. He is a damned villain. And yet may the Gods of Battle that sits above the smoke watch over this damned villain and all bright, bold, little damned villains like him!

The stout boats from the warships made ill navigation for the native craft that for various purposes thronged about the steamer. Some unconcerned gig's bow was for ever bunting into a Cretan boat and causing the wildest panic, but pushing it aside and going ahead with gorgeous indifference. The native's nearest approach to redress was a jab in the eye with a boathook. It developed naturally that these natives had voices like flues, and those who have never heard a sacred concert in an insane asylum cannot appreciate the objections these men made to even the distant approach of a boat from a warship. They began to celebrate the terrors of a collision before there was a probability of it, and if by chance there should happen to be a small crash, their cries were heart-rending. The swirling of their fingers as they waved their hands tragically over their heads at these times made a sight not to be seen in the West. This action seemed to stand out in their minds as being more likely to carry them safely through the crisis than a sudden and skilful application of the oars. But these oars after all, looked to the Westerner to be as useful on the water as scythes. However, when the natives unfurled their sails and tacked for the shore they were masters of their craft. All the boats then stood on their lee gunwales, and the water behind them boiled. The men wore skirts, and it was supposed to be axiomatic that none who wears skirts could sail a boat.

All the afternoon the passengers remained on deck and watched the fleet grouped on the bright bay. The launches were always speeding to and fro, and from time to time a gig, wherein the many oarsmen caused it to resemble a water bug, walked over the water. The officers on the Italian cruiser Etna had pistol practice from the stern, and the band on the Russian flagship played an uncanny melody. Late in the afternoon the English torpedo-destroyer Boxer a long grey wasp of a creature, came in from the sea. She did not join the collection of bottle-green scorpions on the Suda side of the harbour, but slid slowly over to an anchorage near the Revenge.

Then an Austrian torpedo-boat—she was a bottle-green scorpion with a red and gold flag stuck in its back—moved listlessly about among the ships. French sailors from the flagship got a barge, and their launch towed it down to the Guadiana after some freight which had been brought to them from Marseilles. The bringing of this barge alongside the Guadiana caused scenes of the wildest disorder. The language used was material for three riots in Dublin. All the same it was vastly exciting. These men were in earnest about it. They were going to bring that barge alongside the steamer, and one may be forgiven if one's temper gains an advantage during the stress of unusual excitement. Twice the peevish god of circumstance balked them, and they were obliged to circle widely down the wind and return for other trys. Then at last a line was flung aboard and a sailor sprinted and caught it just as it was slipping over-side. Then the blue sailor bonnets with their red pom-poms jostled most surprisingly. There is one thing—a Frenchman can make a festival even of pulling on a rope. These tars had a perfectly delicious time at it. Perhaps the presence of an audience had something to do with the matter. Finally, when the barge was lined alongside, the French officer came aboard the steamer, his face beaming with a smile of victory.

In the meantime, against the darkening hills, strings of signal flags would suddenly burn out in splendid flashes, and often the little voices of bugles called over the water. Smoke was drifting from the enormous funnels of some of the battle-ships.

Down the bay a fat tub of a thing appeared, puffing like an old woman, and making trouble enough on the water for a Cunarder moving sideways. It took an infinite time for her to come up, but when at last she steamed laboriously past everybody went to the rail and grinned. It was the Turkish despatch-boat arrived from her anchorage opposite the fort. She had come three miles. It was wonderful. How she could come three miles puzzled the ablest mariners. She was flimsy enough to have an effect like a pane of glass; one felt that one could see through her. There is nothing in the United States Revenue Marine to compare with her. There was a collection of red flags on the bridge, and over her trailed the red banner.

The decks of the Guadiana had been glad all day with the blue and gilt of the naval officers, and now into our experience and into this assemblage—behold the Turks! Around the ship lay the power of Christian Europe, and now here was the other thing—here was the Turk. Here was the creature that had pulled Europe's nose, boxed its ears, kicked it downstairs, and told it to go to the devil, all the time asking it to be quite patient, that the creature was really governed by the most amiable impulses, and all would be right in time, making it finally furious enough for deadly assault, and then ending by harnessing it and driving it off gaily. Surely the art of procrastination should be taught more if by it you can stab a man's children and then convince him that you are only feeding them with buns, and that he owes you a sixpence for the buns.

Naturally, then, this Turk was interesting. He didn't care, however. He was rather tall and well made, and had the face of a man, a man who could think, a man who could fight. He was fit for problems and he was fit for war, this fellow. The collar of his uniform was heavily flowered with gold, and a sabre dangled so his spurred heels. He wore glasses, and about his eyes was the calm studious expression that one expects in professors at colleges. Unconsciously to us, perhaps, many of us have fashioned our idea of the Turk on this hang-dog photograph of the Sultan which has been reproduced everywhere. Probably this Turk was no nearer the controlling type, but then it was good to find him where one expected at least to find something fat and greasy.

NOTES FROM SIMLA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, MAY 19.

May is the month of events up here, the calling, leave-bringing, dancing month before the rains. Picnics also abound, days at Mashobra and tennis parties even more abundantly. Hotels and boarding houses are at their fullest; every evening strange young men are to be encountered on the Mall, and identified if possible with Mr. Lewellyn Jones or the Mr. De Clancy Smith, I.S.C., whose card you found in your box at 2 p.m. Very precious are these young men for their scarcity. "In the old times," said the mother of daughters to me regretfully, the other day, "every army man who wanted anything had to come to Simla to get it, but the new commands have spoiled that—now half of them go to Naini and Murree." Certainly times have improved for those who do come. They know all the joys of the sex in minority. Invitations are showered upon them, nods and becks and wreathed smiles meet them at every gymkhana. They sit like Sultans on Simla's limited grassplots, eating iced strawberries and trying to look as if it were ever thus. Simla of all India enables a man to feel that he is a man—several men indeed. I heard a subaltern quoted the other day, by a dowager of sixty. It was a subaltern, too, who said languidly the other day: "Oh dear yes! Invitations for all day and every day, and at the end of the season, I *suppose*, I shall say what a good time I've had!" That young man is in a very fit state, one thinks, to be transferred to something lower down. The attentions of Simla are likely to spoil him if he is allowed to remain their victim much longer.

Last Thursday the road to Mashobra was thick with folk going to the fair. One hears so much of "Sipi" that one almost imagines it another Simla function, opened by the Viceroy or blessed by the Commander-in-Chief, the receipts going to a popular charity and largely gathered from Simla residents. A glance at the Mashobra road is quite enough to destroy this illusion. It is hard to identify the people; they are so fine in their holiday clothes, their gilt bangles and their glass beads, but they cannot be other than the working folk of Simla, the bunnias, too, and the bankers, the horse dealers and coolie dealers and sweetmeat sellers and keranis from the officers. Everybody who has a new puggree or a bright chuddar wears it—families go along like moving flower beds, and the women simply blaze in their rickshaws of state, hired for this one occasion only in all the year. There is a good road all the six miles to Mashobra, and a very fair little hotel when you get there sitting on the brink of the hollow where the fair is held. People not lucky enough to have invitations may refresh themselves there to any extent, but the Mashobra country house is a luxury not confined to his Excellency and everybody who exercises hospitality on "Sipi Fair day." Sir Edwin and Lady Collin gave one monster breakfast. Mr. E.G. Buck and his chummery another. Mr. Buck's picnic at his delightful retreat, "Dukani," has become a regular feature of Simla's gayest month, and is invariably one of the pleasantest outings of the year. On these occasions the good things of life—it is quite remarkable how many of them Simla can produce—are served to the guests in an arcadian fashion under the trees, and while the stream of people, to whom the fair and not the breakfast is the event, goes pouring on down to the booths and the magic makers, the Simla resident partakes of things in aspic with crossed legs, and doubts if it really is worth while to go any further—he saw the thing five years ago.

The principal feature of the "thing" is of course the assembled ladies, who sit upon a tier of benches in long and glittering rows, looking very picturesque through the pine trees, and popularly supposed to be there on inspection for the end of matrimony. Old inhabitants deny this, but it is a pleasing illusion, and it is difficult to believe that anything but the expectation of a proposal would keep so many women quiet and happy together for so long a time. One does not stay long at Sipi, the prevailing Pahari odour is so strong, but there is always time for a glimpse at the things which amuse these children of the hills, the sword dancing and the fortune telling, the merry-go-round and the five-legged calf—no great difference after all between these and the attractions of such a rural gathering at home. Queer glass trinkets are to be bought, and raw turquoises and small heathen gods. I bartered for a necklace, blue and green, with gold letters in Sanskrit cut upon it, and only this morning discovered the obscure legend in excellent English on the other side "made in Austria."

Sipi is delightful but unofficial, not a Social Parade in any sense. The earliest of these occurred yesterday afternoon, when H. E. Lady Elgin gave her first garden party. It is the fashion to abuse official garden parties in India, but an exception should be made in favour of such events in Simla. For one thing there is a good deal of cordiality—almost everybody knows everybody else. For another it is an unique joy to khud-dwellers to meet and walk about on a perfectly flat piece of grass. Novelty is especially the salt of life in the hills, where the boundaries are rigid and everything is like everything else. Smart dresses are usually much in evidence at the first Viceregal garden party, contrasting in the oddest way with the elderly garments of the men, which have mostly attained an honoured and a green old age, but yesterday produced nothing very notable of this sort. A good many people looked endimanchees which, as everyone knows, is worse than looking badly dressed, and the hand of the durzee was visible in many directions. The general effect was of course charming, the grounds looked very pretty and beflowered, but individual originality was somewhat lacking. Among coming private entertainments is a garden party at Rothney Castle, the house of the most generously hospitable German Consul-General, Herr von Waldthausen, and a "Cafe chantant Dansant," at the Town Hall, given by Mrs. Money Shewan, whose "music and magic" was so much appreciated earlier in the season. The first club dance comes off to-night, and preparations are more than usually sumptuous.

Great interest is taken by philatelists in the question whether there shall be a special Jubilee stamp. But meanwhile the special stamps which, by the Prince of Wales's suggestion, are to be issued in commemoration of the Hospital Fund will be ready shortly. The Prince has now personally chosen the colours, and the stamps will be ready for sale at the booksellers' shops, (where they should be ordered) as soon as is compatible with the delay necessitated by the care required in printing from the specially engraved plates. The stamps are of two denominations only, a 1s. and 2s. 6d., and are printed in perforated sheets of forty. The design is a very beautiful one, and has been selected by the Prince, whose signature in fac-simile appears on every stamp. Every precaution has been taken against fraud. The design has been registered at Stationers' Hall, and the stamps bear a special water-mark. It must be borne in mind, however, that they must not be used for postal purposes, but only as a "receipt and memento." The object of the issue is to connect the Hospital Fund, if possible, with yet further classes of the public.

THE EXPIRING EPIDEMIC.

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m. on Sunday give the following results:—

Ward.		Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	0	0	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	2
	Fort, Northern	0	0	
	Esplanade	0	0	
B	Mandvi	2	0	
	Chukla	1	0	
	Umarkhadi	3	0	13
	Dongri	0	0	
C	Market	0	0	
	Dhobi Talao	0	0	
	Fanaswadi	0	0	
	Bhuleshwar	0	0	10
	Khara Talao	3	0	
	Khumbarwada	1	0	
D	Khetwadi	0	0	
	Girgaum	1	0	
	Chaupati	0	0	2
	Walkeshwar	0	0	
	Mahalakshmi	0	0	
E	Mazagon	0	0	
	Tadwadi	0	0	
	Second Nagpada	0	0	
	Kamatipura	3	1	35
	Tardeo	0	0	
	Byculla	2	0	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	0	0	
	Sewri	0	0	4
	Sion	0	0	
G	Mahim	0	0	
	Worli	0	0	1
	Water Division	0	1	1
	Non-Resident & Unknown	0	0	2
	HOSPITALS.			
	Grant Road	0	1	
	Ripon Road	0	1	
	Arthur Road	0	2	5
	Marwadi Fatepur	0	1	
	Total	16	7	75

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m. yesterday give the following results:—

Ward.		Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A	Upper Colaba	0	0	
	Mid. & Lower Colaba	0	1	
	Fort, Southern	0	0	3
	Fort, Northern	0	0	
	Esplanade	0	0	
B	Mandvie	1	0	
	Chukla	0	0	22
	Oomarkhari	1	0	
	Dongri	0	0	
C	Market	0	0	
	Dhobi Talao	0	0	
	Fanaswady	0	0	5
	Bhuleshwar	0	0	
	Khara Talao	0	0	
	Kumbharwada	0	0	
D	Khetwady	0	0	
	Girgaum	0	0	
	Chowpatty	0	0	10
	Walkeshwar	0	0	
	Mahalakshmi	0	0	
E	Mazagon	0	0	
	Tarwady	0	0	
	Second Nagpada	0	0	19
	Kamatipura	0	0	
	Tardeo	0	0	
	Byculla	2	0	
	First Nagpada	0	0	
F	Parel	0	0	
	Sewri	0	0	8
	Sion	0	0	
G	Mahim	0	0	
	Worli	0	0	1
	Water Division	0	0	1
	Non-Resident & Unknown	0	0	
	HOSPITALS.			
	Jain	0	1	
	Grant Road	0	2	
	Parel	0	2	7
	Hindu	0	1	
	Cutchee Memon	0	1	
	Total	4	8	76

Total to date... 12,382 10,554

THE JAIN HOSPITAL.

The Jain Hospital from Arthur Road Hospital was removed to Lalbaugh, near Bhuleshwar, on Sunday evening last. The patients, in all numbering 19, were removed in seven ambulances and one Sankli Tank plague van.

THE PLAGUE AT CUTCH MANDVIE.

From the telegram received from Cutch Mandvie, yesterday, by the Plague Committee, we learn there were 72 deaths in all, of which 26 deaths occurred in the town, and 21 in the hospital. There were 287 patients remaining under treatment in the hospitals.

The hospital for the Khojas at Cutch Mandvie has been opened. It will be remembered that Mr. Noor Mahomed Jairajbhoy Peerbhoy, the well-known Khoja merchant, had offered his dharmsalla at the above place for the use of a hospital for his caste fellows. The Committee accepted his offer, and compounders and other materials have been sent by the Plague Committee to Cutch Mandvie.

The Sub-Division office at Walkeshwar was closed yesterday. The Central office in No. 8 district was removed last evening to Mr. Powell's house, near the Zulai's Hospital, Ripon Road.

THE JUSTICES' INSPECTION.

From the report sent by justices of the different districts, yesterday, to the Plague Committee Office, it appears that No. 1 and No. 2 districts were not inspected. In No. 3 district 203 houses were inspected by four justices, but no plague case was detected

superintends the distribution of ration which consists of rice, dall, ghee, fruit, sugar, milk, tea, coffee, vegetables, spices, and even aerated water, which is supplied free of cost. Bidees and pan-supari are also freely distributed amongst the inmates of this place, and packs of playing cards are supplied at the public expense to enable persons living there to divert themselves. Hospital Assistant Rajkhan takes the temperature of the people, and keeps such cases as are found suspicious or that develope signs of plague for the energetic district officer, Dr. Britto, who visits the place twice or thrice a day. The males are kept in two large wards, while the females and children have their places assigned to them in two rooms in the rear of the compound. There are besides the 15 guards and 12 police sepoys, two Bhramin cooks who prepare food for all the Hindus, but those who wish to cook for themselves are allowed to do so, and special facilities are given them. Visitors are allowed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and relations of persons in the camp who express a wish to live in the camp are allowed to do so and are fed there. The whole compound is 150 square feet in breadth and 140 square feet wide, with separate quarters for nurses, latrines, kitchens, etc. The Mahomedans are also supplied with all their necessary wants, and they prepare their own food.

TANK BUNDER CAMP.

The Tank Bunder segregation camp was erected by the Municipality, but was not utilised as such. Owing to the large influx of people from Kathiawar and the Narelwady and Reay Road Camps having been found insufficient to accomodate them all, this camp has been converted into a Quarantine camp since yesterday. It has about 68 rooms, and is capable of accommodating about 200 people. The place is to be kept in charge of one nurse and one hospital assistant. No inmates were admitted into the camp yesterday.

PHOTOGRAPHING THE "VOLUNTEERS."

A few justices turned up on Saturday and another batch of them yesterday morning, at the palatial studio of Raja Deen Dayal, Hornby Row, where it was announced by the artist that he would take two groups of the volunteers who assisted the Plague Committee in house-to-house inspection. The number, the Raja considered, was too small, and the two groups taken by him did not represent the full strength of the volunteers. He has, therefore, invited the justices to his studio on the 1st June next, in order that a large group may be taken. The most recent work of interest executed in this fine studio is a good portrait of General Gatacre.

THE TANK BUNDER BURIAL-GROUND.

The *Muslim Herald* writes:—A mass meeting of Mahomedans, chiefly composed of the Joolaie of Ripon Road, who mustered to the extent of eight thousand, was held in the maidan near the Ripon Road, when the following resolution was adopted:—"That the Hindustani Jamats resolve that no dead bodies from among them should be interred in the new burial-ground at Tank Bunder." It was further resolved that no gratuitous advice in religious matters tendered by Khan Bahadur Cassum Haji Misha and Mr. Haji Oomer Jamal should be followed. The meeting was on its best behaviour, and everything was very cooly and calmly discussed. It was noteworthy that perfect equanimity prevailed in the meeting.

HINDU FEVER HOSPITAL.

From 6 a.m. 22nd to, 6 a.m. 23rd May, there was one convalescent and 15 remaining under treatment.

THE JUSTICES AND THE PLAGUE.

SUGGESTED ADMISSION TO THE D.S.O.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—This being the birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, I thought it an appropriate occasion to open the discussion as to how the members of General Gatacre's Committee and the volunteer justices should be rewarded for their services. Under a merciful providence they have succeeded in bringing down the plague to the point of extinction. It is but reasonable to suppose that the services of the justices who have worked so zealously for the past four months should be brought to a close with the approach of the monsoon. They have borne manfully the brunt of the heat and sun, whilst the exhilarating air of the hill stations has been enjoyed by other citizens who were none the less in duty bound to have carried on the warfare against the plague, as they were appealed to by H. E. the Governor when the fever was at its height. It is hardly fair to expect the justices, after being scorched by the sun, to go round in the drenching wet of the monsoon with a chance of contracting fever of a different, though, perhaps of less virulent, type than the one they are deputed to search for. I hope good sense will prevail, and what little remains of the plague will be attended to by the Municipal staff, and paid overseers, and that the justices should be relieved of their duty of daily visitations from the 1st proximo.

The question now arises in what tangible form the Government should take notice of the gallant services rendered? I do not wish to see the names of those who evaded the work they were requested by the Governor to perform, erased from the list of justices. That would be carrying the matter a little too far; but I am a firm believer in the doctrine of "Honor to whom honor is due," and I maintain that some distinction should undoubtedly be made between those who stayed at home or ran away and those who went to the battlefield. I read an excellent suggestion made by one of your correspondents, the other day, to the effect that gold and silver medals should be struck at our Mint to commemorate the eventful time through which we have luckily survived. I thoroughly approve of the suggestion, but if through some cause or other it is found inexpedient by the authorities, and if there is no time to have them made between this and the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee, then I have another suggestion to offer. I think that "The Distinguished Service Order" would be the most appropriate with which to decorate the members of the Plague Committee and the volunteer justices. What service, may I ask, could have been more distinguished hazardous or more benificent to humanity than that rendered to the city of Bombay by the abovenamed gentlemen? I am sure the justices will not be content with a simple letter of thanks, which would be effaced with time and worn out by age.

Those who desire to gain experience, if they only go out for a week of daily inspection from house-to-house, will understand the trouble, inconvenience, and danger the justices have been through and they would then advocate their cause as I do.—Yours, &c.,

FAIR PLAY.

May 24.

THE PLAGUE IN DAMAUN.

THE VISIT OF PROFESSORS HAFFKINE, KOCH, AND GAFFKY.

The 20th and 21st days of this month will be chronicled in the annals of Damaun as memorable by the visit of three learned scientists to this little city. Sometimes out of evil comes good. The unprecedented virulence of the plague in this city gave occasion for the visit. The three Professors—Haffkine, Koch, and Gaffky, accompanied by Dr. Kalapesi, arrived at Damaun Road station, at 5 a.m., on Thursday, the 20th instant. On their arrival to their astonishment they found that no conveyances of any sort had been sent by the Damaun Government to carry them to Khali Kachigam, whence, according to the programme previously arranged, they were to proceed to Upper Damaun. Luckily the ever-obliging Dr. Cowasji Temoolji Pardiwalla, and the energetic C. P. A. D. F., Mr. Judge, came to their assistance by procuring carriages for them. Mr. Judge lending his own horse, which conveyed them to Dabel, where the Administrator, Captain Azavedo, joined them and made them exchange from carts into *machels*. The whole party then proceeded to Khali Kachigam, where his Excellency the Governor of Damaun was waiting with his host to receive them. One their alighting at Upper Damaun, the four doctors were accommodated in the Government palace and were heartily welcomed by the host and hostess. At 1-30 p.m. the party, accompanied by the Governor, crossed the river and landed at Lower Damaun, where they were received by the local medical profession, Drs. Virgilio Poares, Viriato Pinto, Proenca, De Cunha, and Moniz. They all proceeded then to the residence of the Health Officer, Dr. Proenca, where they held an enquiry for three hours concerning the origin of the epidemic, the the source and the nature of the epidemic, and the result of the anti-plague inoculations performed by Dr. Kalapesi during his two previous visits. The party then proceeded to Shet Sorabji's mansion, where, in the absence of the Shet, who was laid up with severe headache, they were received at the office by Mr. Cowasji Dorabji Burda, the Shet's cousin, who since the outbreak of plague in the city has acted as honorary secretary to the Shet. Dr. Kalapesi introduced Mr. Cowasji and the Secretary as your Damaun correspondent. Dr. Koch, thereupon, took up the *Bombay Gazette* of the 19th instant, and referring to the article "Remarkable Proofs of the Value of Inoculation," asked certain explanations from the secretary, which were satisfactorily given. Dr. Haffkine, then addressing the secretary, asked him whether he had to make any observations as to anti-plague inoculations. The secretary thereupon stated that he was not a medical man, but that he assisted Dr. Kalapesi in the inoculations of over 1,300 persons; he had made it his special business to enquire into and observe minutely all the inoculated cases, and that though a few had died, the deaths therein could be attributed to other causes. He was convinced that anti-plague inoculations with Professor Haffkine's prophyiacic lymph had given immunity against the plague. Amongst various instances the details of which had been written and were handed to Dr. Haffkine, he described two important ones. The first was in respect of the Parsee community of Lower Damaun. It consists of 310 souls, whereof 277 were inoculated, with the exception of about 25 or 30, all twice, and 33, owing to old age and a few to obstinacy, remained uninoculated. That out of 277 one only had died, and it was ascertained that at the time she was inoculated she was suffering from fever and was probably already infected as she resided in a pestilential locality; and out of 33 uninoculated four had died. Thus the percentage of mortality amongst the inoculated was 37, while amongst the uninoculated it is 12·1 per cent., *i.e.*, nearly 32 times more. Dr. Haffkine asked from the secretary a list of the names of the uninoculated Parsees, which was given. The second instance was that out of 200 servants of Shet Sorabji, one remained uninoculated, and he was attacked and died, and that out of 199 inoculated ten were attacked with fever, three of them with buboes, and all recovered except a boy, who after attack was by prudent treatment on a fair way to recovery in two days, but his ignorant parents exchanged medicine for charms and amulets, and he died for want of medicine, nourishment, and food. Dr. Koch then asked for a list of the servants who became ill, and the next day it was handed to him. Then the secretary mentioned a list of the inoculated Parsees who were attacked, but these attacks were of a very mild type, and recovered, thus proving that if the inoculation did not confer complete immunity against virulent infection, it gave them a partial immunity and saved their lives. The three doctors then took leave of Mr. Cowasji and the Secretary, and left at 6-30 p.m., after being presented with bouquets.

On Friday morning, at 7 o'clock, the four doctors proceeded to the Plague Hospital at Merwad, where they were received by Dr. Virgilio Poares, who showed them the plague patients, to the number of about ten. The five doctors held a *post mortem* examination on a dead body and made several bacteriological observations. At 10 a.m., the party paid a visit to Shet Sorabji, being received by the Shet and his cousins, Mr. Cowasji Dorabji Bhurda and Mr. Makooji Jamsetji Bhata. Drs. Koch and Gaffky made inquiries of the Shet, among others, as to the soil of Lower and Upper Damaun, and the reason why Lower Damaun should be visited by the epidemic and Upper Damaun be free from it. Dr. Haffkine in his turn made inquiries as to the result of the inoculations by Dr. Kalapesi, and by Dr. Virgilio Poares, and the learned doctors thanked him for the information, which they said was most satisfactory. They eulogised him for what he had done and was doing for the country. After an interval of rest, which lasted for an hour on behalf, the party left for Upper Damaun, after being garlanded by Shet Sorabji and presented with bouquets.

At 2 p.m., Dr. Kalapesi began his inoculations in the Government School, where after an hour the three doctors called and closely watched the operations and were considerably surprised to find how anxiously and eagerly persons volunteered to be inoculated. The party then proceeded to inspect different parties of the city, and saw several cases of plague and plans where the plague had been very virulent.

The party then went to the residence of the Health Officer, where they were treated to light refreshments. They expressed to the Health Officer their satisfaction regarding the information about the epidemic from the local medical profession.

The party then came to Shet Sorabji's residence, from which they were to depart for Bombay. A large gathering of the members of the Parsee community and some Hindus had gathered to bid them farewell. The three doctors again thanked the Shet and the Secretary for the kind treatment they had accorded and given to them, and requested them to send at the earliest convenience further information. The Shet, at the time of parting, thanked the scientific party in very appropriate terms for the trouble they had taken in visiting the city. He said that the inhabitants considered these most fortunate to see three of the most eminent scientists of the civilized world among them, and that the people felt themselves stimulated by their presence to stamp out the plague. He especially thanked Professor Haffkine for his act of humanity towards the people of Damaun, who by thousands had had the benefit of the inoculations by offering to them the valuable services of his energetic assistant, Dr. Kalapesi, who inoculated about 1,300 persons, and whose name had become a household word in Damaun. He sincerely wished the eminent doctors success in their life.

Dr. Haffkine, representing the party, in reply, said that their work consisted of scientific research which is always of benefit to mankind, and they are supposed to be students for their life and, therefore, they will never forget what new things they have learnt during their investigations at their visit to Damaun. He thanked Shet Sorabji especially for the copious information he had collected, and which would aid to the experts of the scientists. The three gentlemen were then garlanded and presented with bouquets, and rose-water was sprinkled on them.

The people from the most intelligent and educated to the ignorant and labouring class, even the fishermen, presented themselves at the time of the departure, and expressed their gratitude especially to Dr. Haffkine, for saving their lives. The C.P. A. D. F. and Dr. Cowasji Termooji Pardiwala happened to be present at this time at the Shet's residence, and with them the party left amidst the people's acclamation "Viva, viva, Professor Haffkine!" About two hundred yards further on, at the Shet's residence, on the main road near the Phor station, a demonstration of the people had been organised under the leadership of Mr. Raghunath Moorar, who is noted for his philanthropic acts. All the people who had not left the city for the suburbs, and many who came for the purpose, stationed themselves on both sides of the road, and were so eager to see the scientists, that at the noise of the wheels of every carriage they lighted matches to see if it contained the guests, and when they discovered them, a salute of big crackers was fired from every house amidst cries of "Viva, Doctor Haffkine!" Owing to some mismanagement on the part of the subordinate local authorities the party was lamentably inconvenienced on their journey from the city to the Railway station, but Mr. Judge and Dr. Pardiwala overcame the difficulties. However, the fatigues of the journey were great, and the party seemed exhausted on their arrival at the station. Mr. Judge provided them with timely and much needed refreshments. A regrettable occurrance took place on the 21st instant, which threatened to estrange the friendly relations between the local authorities and those of the British frontier. It appears that the frontier naik and a sepoy were found early in the morning of that date at the cremation ground, and being suspected of surreptitiously taking notes of the number of the dead bodies, they were taken to the police station and detained there without food or water for a long time. Shet Sorabji hearing of this circumstance requested Mr. Pallonji Dhunjibhoy to inquire into the matter, and Mr. Pallonji supplied the detained sepoys with eatables, and on the arrival of the Administrator they were released from custody. The Administrator expressed to Mr. Judge his regret for the occurrence.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

THE PARADE.

YESTERDAY being the anniversary of the birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, the troops in garrison paraded at 7 o'clock in the morning in review order. The parade was held at two places:—Colaba; and the General Parade Ground, Esplanade. The British troops paraded at, Colaba, where the Royal Artillery and the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment were drawn up in line at open order. On the General Parade Ground detachments of the 8th and 17th Bombay Infantry and the 21st and 22nd Regiments, Bombay Infantry, were drawn up in a line at open order facing west. The parades were commanded by the respective senior officers present. The regiments being drawn up the usual volley was fired, and after the *feu de joie*, the men marched past saluting the Commanding Officer. Hearty cheers were given for the Queen-Empress by the men on parade. The Royal Standard was hoisted at the saluting battery, and an Imperial salute of 31 guns was fired at 7 a.m. by a gun detachment detailed by the Officer commanding the Royal Artillery for firing the salute.

Almost all business was suspended and the occasion observed as a general holiday. The banks, leading mercantile firms, and many shops in the Fort were also closed. Manifestations of loyal regard for our beloved Sovereign were visible on all hands. All the Government vessels as well as merchants' steamers in the harbour and in the Prince's and Victoria Docks were decorated with flags and bunting. The Government Dockyard Flagstaff and the Royal Bombay Yacht Club Flagstaff were similarly ornamented. The several Consulates in Bombay also had their flags hoisted in honour of the event. An Imperial salute of 31 guns was fired from Her Majesty's Torpede Catcher Plassy.

THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF JHALLAWAR AND KOTAH.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF JHALLAWAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—It is rumoured that the Jhallawar territory will shortly be incorporated with the Kotah State. For about a year the people of Jhallawar have been complacently waiting the decision as to the future of the State, but from the moment they heard the said rumour, there has been a feeling of growing uneasiness among people of all denominations. Petitions and memorials are being submitted to the Government of India against the proposed amalgamation. The petitioners say that the Government of India had finally dismissed the claim of the Kotah State in 1873, when it was held that according to the treaties between the Jhallawar State and the British Government, the Kotah State could not have any voice in the matter of succession of the Jhallawar State; that by the terms of the Jhallawar treaty, as supplemented by the Adoption Sanad, granted by Lord Canning in 1863, the British Government is in justice and honour bound to maintain the Jhallawar State in tact; they also refer to the memorable services of Raj Rana Zalim Singh and his successors, and to the fact that the house of Raj Rana Zalim Singh has remained firm in its allegiance to the British cause ever since the dawn of the British rule in India. They, therefore, pray that the State of Jhallawar be separately maintained, as hitherto, under the rule and protection of the British Government. It may be added that the matter in not one of mere sentiment, but of terrible calamity to thousands of her Majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects; and, therefore, it is expected that the Government of India will not hastily take any step which might result in misery and desolation to many and create discontent amongst the entire population of a State. The Kotah State and the Jhallawar people have been bitterly hostile to each other from the date this state was founded; and giving one people an opportunity of tyranizing over the other would not be either a wise measure of a humane and sympathetic Government. A body of troops has been moved from Deolali to Jhalrapaten in view of the unsettled condition of Jhallawar—this has alarmed the people still more. This anxiety is increased by the consideration that the people of Jhallawar have not, under the protection of the British Government, the power of self-preservation which they might have exercised in any other case. The Kotah State claims that the Jhallawar State was not founded, as it is, with the full consent of the Kotah State. But this is not the case for in the very first article of the Kotah State treaty the Maharaj consents, together with his heirs and successors, to the arrangement by which Maharaj Rana Madan Singh was given one-third of the territory to the acquisition of which, one might assert the Jhallas had solely contributed. Secondly, it is an accepted principle of International Law that treaties are not voidable on this ground like ordinary contracts. The other point on which the Kotah State lays stress is the condition in the treaty, which says that the do not exist any corresponding terms either in the supplementary article of 1818, by which the administration was guaranteed in the family of Raj Rana Zalim Singh. Neither does the condition exist in the treaty of 1838, made with the Kotah State at the time of separation. In this, therefore, is my ingenious mis statement. The British Government cancelled the condition in 1862, when Lord Canning, on behalf of the Queen, assured the Jhallawar State that mere absence of lineal heirs would never be a hindrance to the maintenance of that State and that the right of the State to adoption would be recognised. As to the difficulty in regard to succession, it may be said that they are commonly and easily made in Native States that even a petty Chiefship is allowed not to die out for want of an adopted heir. What happened in Baroda after the deposition of Malhar Rao Gaikwar, illustrates what can be done here too. The other points urged by Kotah are trivial, *e.g.*, the existence of a spurious translation of the treaty, the doubtful orders of some doubtful copies of the East India Company, or that the Kotah State granted to Maharaj Rana Zalim Singh the Jhallawar State in just the same way as a master rewards a servant. A thoughtless correspondent of the "Pioneer" in his issue of the 15th ult. hastily states the amalgamation of Native States, more particularly having an eye on the Jhallawar question. He has humourously styled himself. "A lover of Native States." It would have been more appropriate if he had called himself an enemy of Native States. For whether the amalgamation be effected by force, or the smaller States be insidiously sacrificed—why should the terms of the Queen's proclamation, made after 1857, be ignored or violated—wherein the permanency of the pettiest Jagir is guaranteed? There appears only one answer given to all of these serious questions, *viz.*, "the interests of paramount State and improved." Better perish such temporary improvements in administration rather than that the serious and solemn pledges of the Sovereign be violated—rather than discontent be thoughtlessly created—and rather than one particle of wrong be done to the poorest subjects of the Sovereign. On administrative grounds, too, people of India and its Government Study always give way to the gentlest pressure and readily carry out the wishes of the Political Officers, whereas the bigger States are always more or less unwieldy and reluctant to so easily accept administrative innovations—even though they be improvements. It is such superficial and short-sighted thinkers who do injury to the people of India and to Government by misrepresenting and misinterpreting the views of the rulers to the ruled, and *vice-versa*.—Yours, &c.,

A LOVER OF RAJPUT STATES.

BOMBAY YARN IN CHINA.

MESSRS. FRAMJEE HORMUSJEE in their circular, dated Hongkong, May 5, report,—A very fair amount of transactions has transpired during the past fortnight at a rise of dol. ½ to dol. 1 in Nos. 16 and 12 and of about dol. ½ in Nos. 10 and 20, all inspired by short stocks and moderate arrivals. Nos. 16 & 12 have been well nigh exhausted, and they have been consequently, much more inquired for than Nos. 10 and 20, and some few parcels transacted are reported to have changed therein. No. 20 of superior threads suited for the Tonquin market has not been dealt in to any very great extent, the restrictions of the French government against importations of the Bombay threads not having been as yet removed or relaxed, but, owing to dearness of Japanese threads which have now risen to dol. 99 to dol. 99½, sales have consequently been taken to the limited extent of 700 bales only, medium grades of this count have been pretty freely sought for at dol. 97½ to dol. 98 1-2. Including forward transactions of about 1,500 bales, sales during the past fortnight total 7,500 bales made up of

			Dols.		Dols.
1,850 bales of No.	20	sold at	94	to	102½
1,000 " "	16	"	89	to	101
1,200 " "	12	"	83	to	91½
3,200 " "	10	"	82	to	93½
125 " "	8	"	79		
25 " "	6	"	74½		

leaving unsold stocks—under arrivals of 8,300 bales and shipments coastwise and northwards of 2,000 bales—at 3,900 bales consisting of

2,000 bales of No.	20	1,400 bales of No.	10		
200 " "	16	50 " "	8		
200 " "	12	50 " "	6		

Exchange on India closes at Rs. 100 wire and Rs. 100 1-2 post.

From Shanghai a firm market has been reported, and about 4,600 bales have been advised as sold. No. 20 has been chiefly in demand, and of the total about 3,900 bales have been moved of this count. For Nos. 10 and 16 the northern markets have been decidedly weak, prices ruling there about a tael to two lower than at Shanghai. Japanese Yarn has much improved in the favour of northern dealers, particularly in that of the Chefoo ones, to the detriment and exclusion of Indian Spinnings, and about 1,200 bales Nos. 20 and 16, mostly the former, have been sold at Tls. 75 to Tls. 75 1-2 and Tls. 73 to Tls. 73 1-2 respectively. Total sales comprise about

3,850 bales of No.	20	sold at	Tls.	74·50	to 76·50
225 " "	16	"	"	73	to 73·50
70 " "	12	"	"	68·50	to 69·50
455 " "	10	"	"	65	to 69·50

leaving unsold stock at 4,500 bales. Exchange as on the 30th ultimo has been advised at Rs. 219 wire and Rs. 219 1-2 post.

From Japan No. 20 has been quoted at dols. 90 and No. 16 at dols. 9 dols. 95 Ready goods have been extremely scanty and they have been easily saleable on the spot.

PROFESSOR MAX MULLER continues in the current *Cosmopolis* his exceedingly interesting "Literary Recollections." Referring to the American interviewer, who has at times paid him a visit at Oxford, the Professor says he does not like him, but he cannot help admiring him. He tells of one visit which, however, he describes as "rather humiliating:" An American gentleman (I did not know that he was interviewing me) had been sitting with me for a long time, asking all sorts of questions and making evidently a trigonometrical survey of myself and my surroundings. At last I had to tell him that I was sorry I had to go, as I had to deliver a lecture. As he seemed so interested in my work I naturally expected he would ask me to allow him to hear my lecture. Nothing of the kind; "I am sorry," he said, "but you don't mind my sitting here in your library till you come back?" And, true enough, there I found him when I came home after an hour, and he was delighted to see me again. The Professor some months after had his reward in what he calls "a most charming account of an interview" published in an American journal.

CHINA NEWS.

HONG KONG, MAY 6.

THE news of the opening up of the West River on June 1, has been received with a degree of jealousy by our French neighbours in Tonkin. We published a translation of an article in L'Extreme Orient in which it is stated that the recompense of the French has been meagre indeed for their intervention in the affairs of the Far East. It is asserted that the return of Mr. Allen to the British Consulate at Pakhoi is an indication of a further desire on the part of Great Britain to construct a light railway from Pakhoi to Nambong on the West River. On behalf of the French it is urged that an open port should be created at Tienyuen, where steamers could bring their cargoes for conveyance into the interior of the Southern Provinces of China and in exchange load coal from the mines of Kebao and Hongay.

Prince Arisugawa will leave Yokohama by the French mail to attend the Record Reign Celebrations. He will travel incognito under title of Count Sawa.

The British residents in Tamsui, Formosa, have already celebrated the Record Reign on St. George's Day, when Mr. H. C. A. Bonner, H. B. M.'s Consul, held a garden party at which the Japanese Governor and Admiral and all the officials attended.

The Hongkong Legislative Council met on Monday, when some formal business was transacted. The unofficial members justly complained of the delay in furnishing them with copies of certain bye-laws only two days before the meeting of Council at which they were brought up for approval. The consideration of bye-laws giving greater power to the Sanitary Board when plague or any other disease threatens the Colony was postponed for a week.

Mrs. Carew arrived on May 3, by the P. and O. steamer Ancona, from Japan, and was removed to the Victoria Gaol by the Police, the strictest privacy being observed. She will be probably detained here for some time and then removed to serve the remainder of her sentence at home.

Dr. P. B. C. Ayres, who has been for over twenty-three years Colonial Surgeon of the Colony, left for home on April 29 in the P. and O. Japan. For his efforts on behalf of sanitation in the Colony, he was awarded the honourable decoration of C.M.G. He was a general favourite in the Colony, more especially amongst the Police from whom he received an address on his departure. Dr. J. M. Atkinson has been appointed Acting Colonial Surgeon and President of the Sanitary Board, and Hon. F. H. May has been appointed Vice-President.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held on the 28th April. The meeting passed off very quietly. Mr. H. Smith, in his speech, gave a resume of the work done during the year. Mr R. M. Gray was elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

An important decision was given by the Full Court of Appeal in an action brought by two Indian money-lenders against a decision of the Acting Puisne Judge in which he committed them to prison for three months, with hard labour, for contempt of court, committed in the form of perjury in a civil action, by which means they endeavoured to defraud the defendant in the action of dol. 600. The court has upheld the decision of the Acting Puisne Judge. Mr. Francis, for the appellants, asked for a stay of execution so that the appellants might consider whether they would appeal before Her Majesty in Council. Execution was stayed for a month.

The detachment of Indian and Chinese police to represent the Colony at the Record Reign Celebration in London left with the P. and O. steamer Japan on the 29th April, in command of Deputy Superintendent Badeley.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

AN APPEAL BY LORD HERSCHELL.

THE annual meeting of the Fellows of the Imperial Institute was held, on May 1, in the Indian Conference Room. Prior to the meeting the Governing Body of the Institute, met under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, and various alterations of the constitution of the committees were adopted. A number of the members were reappointed, and among other changes effected was the election of representatives of the Fellows upon the executive Council. His Royal Highness afterwards presided at the annual meeting.

Sir F. Abel read the annual report, which stated that the past twelve months had witnessed a very rapid increase in the amount and importance of the work carried out in the Scientific Department, which was under the immediate direction of Professor Wyndham Dunstan, and in the creation and development of which the general director of the Institute, Sir Frederick Abel, had taken a specially prominent part. The inquiries addressed to the Commercial Intelligence Office by merchants, manufacturers, officials, intending emigrants, &c., continued to be of very varied character, and the prompt and satisfactory manner in which they were dealt with received very general recognition. Some months ago the director addressed a circular letter to the Chambers of Commerce throughout the United Kingdom, pointing out that many of Her Majesty's Consular representatives had, from time to time, directed attention, prominently, in their reports, to the fact that trade circulars and price lists sent to foreign countries by British merchants and manufacturers were often useless because they were not in the language of the country, and because prices were quoted only in English currency and for British weights and measures. The letter stated that the Commercial Intelligence Department of the Imperial Institute was prepared to supply at prime cost, translations of trade circulars, &c., in any languages, and to ensure the proper conversion of English weights, measures, and price quotations, into those of the country in which the circulars were intended. As the result of this letter, applications for translations of circulars into hinese, Japanese, Spanish, Dutch, French, German, and Polish have been satisfactorily dealt with. Consular reports still continued to lay stress on the serious disadvantages which British and English traders laboured, from the causes pointed out, in their endeavours to compete in foreign countries with their Continental competitors; and the facilities, which the Imperial Institute offered to afford in this direction had been noted with appreciation by several provincial Chambers of Commerce. The Commercial Correspondent that the Department of Commercial Intelligence, as at present organised, was susceptible of very rapid and successful development, as soon as available resources permitted, in many directions in which its operations cannot fail to be of important service in the advancement of the economic and the trade interests of the United Kingdom and the Colonies. The collections of natural products which were housed in the galleries of the Institute had received substantial additions during the past year.

The Prince of Wales said: In moving that the report, which we have just heard be received, I am anxious to express my satisfaction at the evidence which it affords of the steadily continuous progress which is being made in developing the primary functions of this institution, by the accomplishment of work calculated to advance the commercial and industrial interests of the various countries composing the Empire. (Applause.) I call upon the chairman of the governing body, Lord Herschell, to second this motion and to make a few observations.

Lord Herschell said it must be remembered that it was not yet four years since the Institute was opened by Her Majesty, and it was obviously a work of that sort could only become fully effective in course of time and by degrees. There were comparatively few who knew that they had established in that Institute one of the finest laboratories in London, and that the work done in it by Professor Dunstant and Sir F. Abel had been found of high value both by India and the Colonies. He enlarged upon the many descriptions of work done by the Commercial Intelligence and the Scientific and Technical Departments, and more particularly quoted a number of instances of the appreciation of its great practical value by official bodies such as Colonial and Indian authorities, by public companies, manufacturers, merchants, emigrants, &c. He referred to the recognition of the value of the Institute in foreign countries, as illustrated by the institutions of national establishment such as the Commercial Museum of Philadelphia, avowedly upon the pattent of the Imperial Institute. Alluding to the finance of the Institute, he stated that last year there was a balance to debit of £5,300. This year it was about £1,000. It was quite true they had a mortgage of £40,000, and an overdraft of £5,000, but he thought it should be borne in mind that if the Institute closed its doors and realised its assets, quite apart from the collections in the galleries, and quite apart from the building there would be something like £120,000. Therefore, of course, although for working purposes the condition was not a satisfactory one, nevertheless, they were not in such a desperate way as was represented. He pointed out that 3000 more members would enable them to pay their way. If the Institution existed in any other country than England, it would receive help from the Municipalities or the taxes of the country; but on the contrary here they paid £4000 or £5000 a year to parish rates, and about £400 to the Imperial taxes. The work they were doing was useful work, and their difficulties, any more than financial difficulties in the case of other public institutions in London afforded no reason for putting a stop to that work. They should rather be an incentive to those interested in the work and its development to support a public institution, the value of which to the Empire could only be properly realised by the provision of adequate resources.

The motion was carried *nem. con.* and the proceedings then concluded.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth, go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to the taste, it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pains, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere at Is. 1½ a bottle.

THE PROPOSED RAILWAY TO INDIA.

In our last issue we gave the salient points of Mr. C. E. D. Black's paper read before the society of Arts on May 5, on "The Railway to India" by way of Mesopotamia. The reading of the paper was followed by an interesting discussion as follows:—

The Chairman (Sir Frederick J. Goldsmid, K. C. S. I., C. B. said he had been over the greater part of the country referred to, having travelled from Kurrachee to the Caspian overland, and had also been backwards and forwards through Persia in all directions. He should be sorry to say anything which might seem to be throwing cold water on the scheme now put forward, but he felt bound to say that he did not think a railway along the coast line at the south of Persia was much more free from political complications, if at all, than one running direct through Persia. In the latter case the Persian Government would no doubt have an interest in it, and in its protection, because it would enable them to traffic with other countries; but a line along the coast would practically be of no use to the Persian Government unless subsidiary lines were made in connection with it. Baloochistan had been referred to as being under the ægis of British protection, and that was so to a great extent, but the western side belonged to the Persian Government, and Great Britain had no more control over it than over Persia itself. What really commended this scheme was the direct line from Alexandria across to the head of the Persian Gulf; this, if they could arrange with the Arabs of the desert, would be free from political complications, but he was not quite certain that the Sultan at Constantinople would consider that this was outside his jurisdiction. He laid claim to the holy places of Mecca and Medina, and probably he might claim that part of Arabia through which the line would run. At any rate, he (the Chairman) would not be surprised if difficulties arose in that direction. Otherwise he thought there was a good deal to commend this line, and as to its being an immense advantage to Great Britain and British India, there was no need for argument. A line of this description through a rich country like Mesopotamia would be very useful to India in years of famine. With regard to the distances and the exact line to be used, those were minor points to be considered afterwards. The great question was to take the map and see where the line should run and through what countries. If they could only come to some conclusion on that point it would be a great thing, but he could not forget that evidence was taken a great many years ago about the Euphrates Valley Railway and nothing had come of it. He made these remarks because he knew the country and years ago reported on Makran, and drew the line of demarcation.

THE ABSENCE OF A SURVEY.

Mr. J. W. Parry said, the first point that struck a practical man was that no survey had been made along the proposed alignment, and so of course there were no reliable data to base any conclusions upon. He did not know that even a barometric reconnaissance had been made over any portion of it. Mr. Black said that the only unexplored part was a stretch of about 200 miles, but that there was ample evidence that the nature of that strip could not be very different from that of the surrounding tracts. He should have been grateful for some of this ample evidence, for it was not so evidently obvious, nor was 200 miles a strip of country to be despised. Those who had done survey work knew that judging a country from maps was often deceptive; some portions were easier than they looked, while others were more difficult. The cost of the whole matter, however, was the cost, which Mr. Black said ought not to exceed £5,000 per mile. The total length he gave at 2,400 miles, which he was assured could be constructed in three years. He should like to know who assured him that a line 2,400 miles long could be constructed in three years and if he had the assurance in writing. Could he name a railway 1,200 miles in length which had been completed in that time? From his experience he could assure Mr. Black that the company or contractors who could build—in a politically safe country—2,400 miles in five or six years, would not only deserve their profits, but all the honours which a grateful country could bestow upon them. Mr. Black might consider that his line should cost about the same as the standard gauge Indian lines. Now, the East Indian, Eastern Bengal, Great Indian Peninsula, and Bombay, Baroda and Central India, each cost over two lakhs per mile in the days when the rupee was not depreciated, or over £20,000 per mile; while the average of ten standard gauge lines worked out to Rs. 164,440, which, converted at 1s. 3d. per rupee, gave £10,410 per mile. Had Mr. Black considered that officers and men would require at least double Indian pay for working in these inhospitable regions, the police escorts that would be necessary for each member of the staff, the arrangements of food supplies, water shelters, sanitation, and hospital accommodation for this army of coolies, and had he pondered over the rates that would be demanded by contractors for risking their lives, and the delays that would occur upon acquiring land and building stations? Colonel Pasley's scheme was more feasible than Mr. Black as he proposed to limit the line to the port of Basra for the present, but even then 1,000 miles had to be constructed, mostly through the Arabian desert. Mr. Black and Colonel Fraser deserved their best thanks for drawing attention to this route, and for the trouble they had taken in the matter. As the treasury of the Egyptian Government was particularly full after the annexation of Dongola and as there were several Royal Engineers in that service, perhaps the authorities might be induced to advance the necessary funds for detailed official examination of this route, which they all so much desired.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES.

Mr. Martin Wood said it was very appropriate that Sir Frederic Goldsmid should occupy the chair that evening, as he knew all about the countries concerned, and also the various projects which had been brought forward from time to time for a railway to India. He had spoken rather tenderly of the present proposal, and so far as political considerations were involved there might be some advantage in this new route, though there was a good deal of exaggeration about the political difficulties, which could easily be overcome if a thoroughly good scheme were put forward. The last time this subject came before the Society was in 1882 or 1883, when an abstract of a paper by Mr. Fell was published, in which a route from Alexandra to Bussorah was proposed; this was to cost 8½ millions. That was one of the projects of Sir W. Patrick Andrew, a very sanguine gentleman, who made calculations to show that there would be a profit of £407,000, or 51·2 per cent. on the capital. He understood that the chief object of civil engineering was to remove friction, and it appeared to him there was no comparison between the amount of friction involved in dragging produce for thousands of miles though a tropical land, and that involved in water carriage, for the sea was the great highway of which no power could deprive us. Much had been said of the Suez Canal being blocked, which of course was a possibility; but the obvious alternative in such a case was the Cape route, which in these days of improved steamers was by no means to be despised. But there was also another alternative, viz., another canal from the Levant into the Red Sea, and in his opinion such a canal would be incomparably more productive and more economical than any railway which could be devised through those regions. He thought the estimated cost of £5,000 a mile was quite out of the question. No doubt the Indian lines referred to by the last speaker were constructed a good while ago, and on very extravagant terms, but still the cost of construction of such a line must be formidable, and also the working expenses. The whole of the fuel would have to be carried from the Levant, and a supply of water would have to be provided for; in fact, there seemed to be every impediment in the way of the railway being successful. Nor did he see the immense advant

ECHOES OF SCIENCE.

DR. JOHN MACINTYRE is probably the first to combine the Rontgen rays with the cinematograph, and thus exhibit the movements of the bones in animals. Dr. Macintyre's "living skeletons" are photographed on a cinematograph film 35 feet long. So far he has confined himself to frogs, but some of his followers will perhaps rise to the human skeleton. His results were shown at a meeting of the Glasgow Philosophical Society.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Society, a paper on the Rontgen rays by Mr. A.A. Campbell Swinton, the eminent electrician, was communicated by Lord Kelvin. Mr. Swinton finds that when the cathode rays, that is, the electric rays from the cathode of a Crookes vacuum tube, fall on a carbon screen, they make it luminous. The luminosity can be made to appear as a bright circle, showing that the cone or sheaf of rays is apparently hollow. It is well-known that what we call the "Rontgen rays" used in photographing the bones are excited by the cathode rays striking on the glass of the Crookes tube; and Mr. Swinton finds that apparently these rays are only produced when the cathode rays strike on solid matter.

M. Leguz, of 15, Rue Racine, Paris, has brought out a "humn lorgnette" for the use of medical men which enables them to inspect the bones of the living subject by the Rontgen rays much as with a opera-glass. Hitherto radiography, to use what appears to be the winning word, has been practised by physicians and surgeons under difficulties owing to the cumbrous apparatus required; but the new instrument is small and portable, and is fitted even for country doctors. The generator of the rays goes into a small box, and the "lorgnette" applied to the eyes shuts up small like a concertina. The phosphorescent material used to show the bones by the rays is platino-cyanide of barium.

Thanks to modern chemistry, both horticulture and agriculture are becoming rigorously scientific, and henceforth the successful farmer or gardener will be the one who knows how to apply the chemistry of soils and vegetable physiology to his particular case. An illustration of what may be done by an intelligent grower experimenting for himself is furnished by the beautiful cyclamens of M. Traffaut, of Versailles. He began by applying the general ideas of vegetable physiology and changed the mode of nutrition, planting them in a rich soil and using rich manure. The result was a failure, since it produced a luxuriant foliage with poor flowers. Then he tried a soil not rich in mineral elements, and a nitrogenous liquid manure, with remarkable success. The flowers were splendid, but they had lost some of the delicate fragrance which they have on the wooded slopes of the Alps.

Further investigation showed that cyclamens are very poor in phosphoric acid and mineral matters, poorer even, than orchids, or epiphytes, but their ashes are rich in chlorine, silicium, and oxide of iron. As cyclamens exact little nitrogen or mineral matter for their nourishment, the choice of soil is more important than the kind of manure for them. A mixture of leaf mould and sandy clay appears to suit them. It would appear, therefore, that much intelligence and experiment is required on the part of the horticulturist and agriculturist in order that he may adapt the principles of vegetable physiology to particular cases. It will not do to apply these general ideas in a general way. The graceful Adiantum, for example, grows in poor soils, but with appropriate manure it can be made to grow a luxuriant foliage. Thus the treatment which injures the cyclamen improves the Adiantum. Full particulars of these experiments were given to the Societe Horticulture of Picardy.

The "Boston Medical and Surgical Journal" advocates the introduction of climatology as a subject in the curriculum of medical schools. At present the students are left to educate themselves on the subject as best they can; but there is little doubt that before long the best medical colleges will open classes in climatology, and we shall have specialists in this branch. Really, it is time, for many valuable lives have been lost or healths ruined by persons going to climates unsuitable to their constitutions. Hitherto our doctors have not been able to give sound advice on the matter. Bates the naturalist, for example, was told by his doctor that the valley of the Amazon would probably improve his health, whereas he never got the better of his stay there. By and by, an intending traveller all emigrant will be able to consult a doctor on his choice of a country with some confidence.

Miss Agnes Fry finds that the branches of some trees do not always occupy the same positions in summer as in winter. Walnut and mulberry trees, which she examined showed a difference of nearly 3 feet in the height of certain branches in summer and winter.

In 1891 the american Government decided to reserve in its own keeping certain lands other than those required for public parks or such like purposes. This measure arose from the fact that forests are needed to maintain the flow of some streams and prevent erosion on mountain slopes. Accordingly, 20 million acres of forest land were set apart by President Cleveland. The lumber trade brought a strong opposition to the measure but so far it has failed. The forest comprise a great variety of timber in the Far West, from the chaparal brushwood of Southern California to the pine, cedar, and spruce of the Rocky Mountains, from the big trees of the Sierras to the dence forests of Oregon and Washington. Unfortunately, however, there is no proper administration of these forests, and they are still a prey to herdsmen, speculators, and forest fires; and attempts are now being made by the American Forestry Association to remedy this state of affairs.

Professor Gabriel de Mortillet, in the "Revue Mensuelle" of the Paris School of Anthropology, has brought forward arguments and facts in support of his opinion that nothing has yet been found by geologists which allows us to assign the origin of man to a date more recent than 230,000 years ago.

William Sutherland, in the *Philosophical Magazine*, deduces an important law relating to the spontaneous change of oxygen into ozone, which has important bearings on the constitution of our atmosphere. He finds, from theoretical considerations, that under very small pressure oxygen should exist entirely as ozone. As the pressure increases the ozone changes partially into oxygen, but even at a high pressure the change is not complete. According to his figuring the proportion of ozone in the air at the earth's surface should be about one volume in 7,000. Measurements show that the actual proportion is about one volume in a million, but Mr. Sutherland accounts for the disappearance of the rest by its chemical activity, which causes it to unite readily with metals. Above a point where the atmospheric pressure is about 715 millimetre of mercury, that is, where there is a practical vacuum, what oxygen there is, is completely in the form of ozone. The author says:—"These deductions have some hygienic importance, and explain the reason for the current belief that the higher regions of the atmosphere and winds which come from them are richer in ozone than the surface air; they also show that there must be enough ozone in the whole atmosphere to have an important bearing on the blue colour of the sky. . . . The claims of ozone to a serious share in the blueness of the sky have been rather neglected; but if it is remembered that the blueness of ozone is enormously stronger than that of oxygen under the same conditions, it becomes apparent that the quantity of ozone which has been theoretically shown to have a probable existence in the atmosphere must exercise a considerable influence on the colour of the sky and the colour of distant objects."

Mr. W. B. Roberts, well-known to north Queenslanders, and who is now mining in the Straits Settlements, writes concerning tellurium discoveries:—"It is more than probable that patches of telluride ore are often passed over in all the colonies for want of systematic assaying of the concentrates, as ore running even hundreds of ounces per ton will not show a colour by pan test. When it is found to occur, the only known method, as far as I am aware, is to smelt the concentrates, grinding, chlorination, and cyaniding being all ineffective. I have made many assays from the Mount Shamrock Mine in Queensland of mineral that would not show any gold by panning, and yet would assay up to several hundred ounces per ton. It occurred there as a combined telluride of bismuth and gold, and one selected piece, I remember that I assayed, yielded 62 per cent. bismuth and 241 ounces per ton of gold, though not a speck was visible. I remember, also, some twelve years ago, a patch of telluride of lead and gold was found in the New Zealand P.C. Mine, in Gympie, that assayed over 500 ounces per ton. The Mount Shamrock Company, after failing by battery and grinding process to extract the gold, put in a chlorination plant, which also failed to be a success. They then concentrated their tailings heap in a primitive manner, and obtained several hundred tons of concentrates, for which they realised up to seven ounces or eight ounces per ton at the Queensland Smelting Company's works. The only safe method is to pay strict attention to concentration, and have the concentrates systematically assayed.

One of the most important problems now attracting the attention of seismologists is the choice of a system of stations in which to carry out the seismic survey of the world. In the plans so far proposed advantage would, for obvious reasons, be taken of the existence of astronomical observatories, care being at the same time exercised to obtain a nearly uniform distribution of stations over the earth's surface. Professor G. Grablovitz has recently, however, made the important suggestion that these stations should rather follow the distribution of volcanoes and the great lines of fracture of the globe. He points out that the majority of active volcanoes are situated close to three great circles, and he proposes that seismic stations should be founded near the six points of intersection of these circles, and near twelve other points symmetrically placed on the three circles. There are several obvious difficulties in the way of such an arrangement; but it is, nevertheless, one that deserves a very careful consideration.

A STRONG GIRL'S STORY.

MRS. MURRAY, of 17, Market-street, Glasgow, looks at her daughter Agnes with tears of gratitude. "Aggie," she said to a reporter, "will tell you the story of her escape from the grave, and what she forgets I'll try and give."

"Well, sir," said Miss Murray, "two years ago my breath almost left me, and what with that affliction and an indescribable pain in my head, I thought I was going to die. I became as pale as the tablecloth, while my lips turned blue. My face was like the face of a corpse. I would go out at nine in the morning, but, becoming weak and faintish, had to be sent home before mid-day. So weak, so sick, so low-spirited, so emaciated did I become that I was a ghastly sight, and all I was fit for was to lie back in a chair or go to bed. The doctor was summoned. 'Poor thing! Poor thing! I'm afraid, I'm afraid!' was all that he whispered to my mother, who began to cry. I was taken to the coast, and instead of improving, I grew worse and worse. I was helped out to one of the public seats on the beach, and the people as they passed by audibly remarked—'In a decline, poor girl!' I had given up all hope, when one day my mother said, 'I've heard of wonderful cures by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.' She got them, and I was a different girl before I had got half through the first box. I consumed the contents of four boxes, and now I never felt stronger in my life. I had not taken half a box till the pain left my head, and now I'm so cheery, so well, that I'm able to go to my work at nine in the morning, and work till eight o'clock at night. I have a sister in Portsmouth, whose husband is in the Navy.

"In a decline, poor girl!"

WHEN THE CZAR WAS AT LEITH,

my sister's husband was there in one of the British man-o'-war vessels, and he came to see me. On beholding me his eyes opened wide: he grasped my hand, and exclaimed—'Oh, won't Jeanie, your sister, be the happy woman when I tell her of how well you are looking!'"

"The Sailor's surprise."

"Two years ago," Mrs. Murray added, "my girl was as robust as could be, but she drooped and drooped, and I thought she was going to die. Her cheeks fell in so that you would have imagined they were touching each other inside. At the infirmary, when the doctor saw her, he shook his head and said, 'Poor thing, you are in a bad way!' I thought

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

had come." The poor woman's eyes filled and she covered them with her apron. "Then I read of the wonderful cures that had been effected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. This was in July. The first box brought the colour to her face; the second filled up her cheeks; the third improved her appetite; and the fourth enabled her to go back to work. Now, she was never in better health. She is remarkably strong."

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These pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams Medicine Company, of 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, England, represented wholesale and retail by Messrs. Treacher & Co., Ltd., by whom the Pills will be sent to any part of India in glass bottles, with pink wrapper bearing the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. Special prices for quantities. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred.

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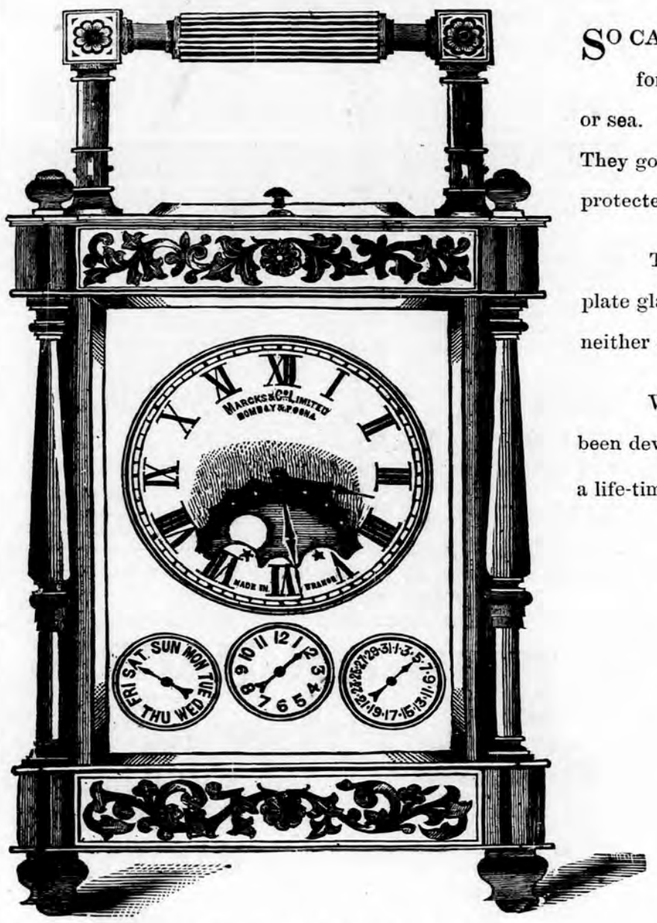

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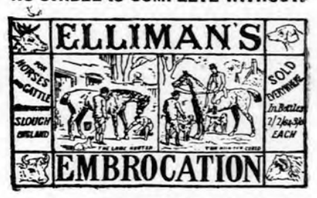

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